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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

MR. JAMES' NEW NOVEL.

The Old Oak Chest, By G. P. R. James.
3 vols. Newby.

EXCEEDINGLY dramatic in construction and interesting in development, founded on extraordinary circumstances in common life as society has been constituted in our own times (sixty years ago), but without outraging that possibility with which we often meet realities surpassing fiction, and also supported by characters remarkable, but not out of nature, Mr. James has here combined a story likely to be as generally popular as the foremost of his historical novels. The events revolve around three brothers, of different dispositions, and their families; and is knit together by means of a female founding, deposited by a forlorn mother at the hall-door of the eldest. This, and the abstraction of a will from the Old Oak Chest, are the two hinges of the whole; and the agency of a precious villain, Matthew Hush, is intimately connected with the stirring business of the plot. Other individuals, of original conception or forcibly drawn personalities, co-operate in its working out. To the first class belongs Tom Notbeame, a strange taciturn innkeeper—a go-between apparent half-wittedness and passiveness and striking acumen and energy: to the latter, an old Scottish Dr. Porteous, with a wooden leg and well-sustained Scottish dialect; Mr. Greenshield, an example of sound principle and cosmopolitan intelligence; Harry Haldimand, a modern Sir Percy Shafton, who ought perhaps to be more properly classed with the originals; Mrs. Giles, an ancient housekeeper; Lady Martindale, a woman, and Lord Martindale, her son, a man, of the world; Bill Bagshot, a crony of Hush, and his son, worthy of the succession to the paternal throne of raceality; and others, besides the three brothers Haldimand already alluded to, who fill up the canvas with perfect veri-similitude and natural speech and action.

In union with these materials, Mr. James displays his acknowledged talent in descriptions of landscape, which our best artists might paint, and which are, nevertheless, necessary to the piece, and not so long as to cause its progress to drag; admirable, though brief, touches on education, poor-laws, and other questions of national importance, put into the mouth of Mr. Greenshield; and the exposure of the cunning "dodges" of prevention and circumvention, with which the intercourse of the guilty plotters are infected. Nor is there any lack of touching incident or desperate enterprise; and the account of a party of pleasure may be referred to as an affecting specimen of the former, as the later scenes of Matthew Hush are of the latter qualities.

Having thus shortly mentioned the leading features of the *Old Oak Chest*, we shall (leaving, as we always do, the secrets of the novel to be unravelled in the author) endeavour to illustrate the work by a few terse passages, such as Mr. James studs his compositions with, and thus render them instructive, whilst the narrative carries on their entertaining interest.

Speaking of indelible characteristics from youth to age, we read:—

"I will never allude to any cause of offence between us, nor act in any other way than I would have acted before our quarrel. But you must not
Enlarged, 231.]

exactly expect me to forget. I will indeed endeavour to think as little as possible of what has occurred; and as far as all personal offence goes, I can sweep it away as if it had never existed. But there are things not to be so effaced, my dear Dick, lines which, once drawn, can never be obliterated; I mean my view of William's character. Each man in setting out in life, is furnished with a painting brush and a pot of colours; and one of his allotted tasks is to paint his own portrait on the hearts and minds of those with whom he is brought much in contact, in strokes that cannot be erased. William has done so with me. I believe the likeness is a good one; but at all events there it must remain."

"But he may change," urged Dick. "Time, experience, God's grace, repentance, may work a vast alteration."

"Then he must paint a new picture," replied Sir John, with a smile.

The same opinion is not, however, strictly applied in regard to a lower personage, viz.; Tom Notbeame, for we are told that he bore the "honourable office of fisherman and gamekeeper on the moor to Sir John Haldimand, for whose exclusive amusement, part of the lake was reserved. The office had been bestowed upon him by the baronet when he was quite a youth, and for a reason which has procured office for many another man, namely, that those interested in him did not know what else to do with him. He was the son of an old servant of the Haldimand family, and had been an odd boy, an odd lad, and an odd young man. Some thought he was a genius, some thought he was a fool; and certain it is, he read a great deal of very strange matter in his youth, all of which seemed to sink in upon his mind as upon blotting-paper, producing vague and indistinct impressions which sometimes came to light again in very strange ways. Twice before he was twenty years of age, he was brought up for poaching; and in verity his gun or his fishing rod was seldom out of his hand; but he fully convinced Sir John Haldimand that the head and front of his offence, was the shooting of any strange birds or beasts that he might see for the purpose of stuffing them afterwards; and, as his mother had often pressed for some employment for him, Sir John made him a game-keeper to prevent the other game-keepers from meddling with him.

"He lived for three years in the little cottage by the Mere before it ever entered into his imagination to make a public house of it; but many people came to ask for permission to fish during that time, and were sent up to the great house to obtain it. The good-humoured baronet took into consideration this great additional labour, and bestowed upon the keeper the privilege of granting permission, only adding an injunction to see that the visitors fished fair."

We may copy, as a variety, the clever portrait sketch of Mrs. Giles, the old house-keeper, "who had a great dislike to noise of any kind. That worthy lady had now become, as the reader may imagine, an old woman. Still she was almost as active as ever, and boasted that she had not known an hour's ill-health for thirty years. Her intellect was as perfect, and most of her corporeal senses were as sharp as they had been at the age of forty. Her hearing was even more acute, though her eyesight, she was forced to admit, had a

little failed: that is to say, she used spectacles to thread a fine needle and read small print; but upon other occasions, she did very well without. The greatest ravages that time had made were apparent about the mouth; not that the persevering enemy of mortal strength had taken the stones from the mill; for, on the contrary, her teeth were very good; but those in front, which had always been very large and somewhat horse-shaped, were now larger and more prominent than ever, and had got a certain straggling look about them, leaning a little away from each other, like a party of gentlemen slightly intoxicated who find a difficulty in walking arm in arm. To hide this, she had got into a habit of drawing the upper lip, which was somewhat long naturally, as far as possible, over the front teeth, adding greatly to a certain natural primness of countenance, and rendering it somewhat difficult to smile. Heaven bless the old woman! We all have our little vanities, and why not she?"

Astute observation on social life are widely scattered over the work, and serve to garnish character; *ex gr.*—

"Of course it made a great difference in men's estimation of his character, that he was prosperous instead of unfortunate. It may be considered as an invariable axiom, that, although good men are not always prosperous, prosperous men are always good—at least in the estimation of nine hundred and ninety nine men out of every thousand in the world. People deal mildly even with recorded crimes in the case of the prosperous; and the good folks of Dingle and Halcombe and all the neighbourhood said sweetly, in speaking of Mr. Bagshot, that he had sown his wild oats, and would doubtless be a very different man now. One of his first acts, indeed, tended to conciliate esteem. There are white spots in the devil; and, though by this time he was avacious as well as greedy, he took care of his old mother. He had no principle upon earth; but nature has principles which often supply the place of those we want. He married, too, a stout, ill-favoured, pock-marked girl with a large nose, who had a thousand pounds at her command. He was not reported to be the best of husbands; but she was soon relieved from a somewhat hard and unpleasant life by death. She left one boy, whom his father diligently brought up in the way he should go.

"As to his dealings with his neighbour, Farmer Bagshot was soon found to have lost none of his keenness. The edge had not been blunted in the United States; far from it. He would make a good bargain wherever he could, and never asked himself whether it was an honest one or not. He kept diligently out of the fangs of the law; he gave no one an opportunity of prosecuting him; but many a one, after dealing with Farmer Bagshot, was heard to say, 'It's the next thing to swindling.'

"He cared nothing about that, provided it was the next thing. He was obliging, too, when he was paid for it. Though a rich man, there was nothing that he would not himself do, or make his son do, for money. His carts and horses were always to spare when any one would give more for their use than they could gain upon the farm; and he would sell anything or everything that anybody wanted, for a little more than its worth. He did it all too with a dogged air of in-

difference, which he had probably acquired in the West, giving people to understand, even when he was driving a very hard bargain with them, that he did not care about it, and was doing them a favour rather than otherwise."

With these bricks of the complete building, our readers must be satisfied, and we have only to add, that the finale is a fine proof of poetical justice.

CANADA, ETC.

The Shoe and Canoe; or, Pictures of Travel in the Canadas. By J. J. Bigsby, M.D. 2 vols. Chapman and Hall.

DR. BIGSBY was Secretary to the Boundary Commission under the treaty of Ghent, and has set down in an agreeable and intelligent manner, (with maps and engravings) a description of such scenery and scenes of colonial life as struck him on his diversified official tour. Within the last fifteen months, however, the *Literary Gazette* has followed so many travellers throughout the Canadas, and the northern parts of the United States, that we find ourselves tied to the expediency of picking out novelties, rather than going over any of the same ground, in order to illustrate the author, and his six years' wandering, pencil in hand. Besides the Itinerary and its notices, he treats of important questions, such as emigration; but these also we leave to be mingled with the masses of discussion which are now so abundant, so various, and so puzzling. In looking to the other portion, we shall endeavour to accompany Dr. B. as far as possible out of the common track, and put our foot in his Shoe, or our body into his Canoe, where he has been most remote from preceding writers, as on Lake Simcoe, Huron, the Ottawa River, and Lake Nipissing:—

"The current, as we ascended the Ottawa (open or spotted with islets, by turns), from Forbes' Tavern, was strong against us; but in an hour and a half we arrived at the pretty Indian village of the Lake of the Two Mountains, which straggles over and about a sort of green, with mounds of sand behind, overhung with woody hills. The Nipissing, or Witch Indians, inhabit the left half of the village, in neat, painted houses (so they looked at a distance); but the other half, belonging to the Iroquois, seemed desolate and neglected. I suppose they were still at their winter hunting-grounds. As we skirted close past the church, which is near the water-side and in the centre of the village, we saw sitting on a gravestone, under a lofty elm, the old priest Humbert, with his large serious feature, in cassock and sombrero. Singular to say, Mr. Bartlett, in his 'Canadian Scenery,' has given us the self-same picture, taken some years after my visit.

"At the further end of the village we delivered a bag of silver money to a trader of the place. There gathered near us a group of dark, handsome, gipsy-like men, wrapped in blankets with scarlet borders; filthy, ugly women; and frolicsome children, all peaceable, and pleased to gaze upon us. The strange, uncouth spot, the bandit faces and dresses, made me think I was at the world's end."

This, be it remembered, was some years ago: since then the district has been much settled, and we leave it for Lake Nipissing:—

"The size and shape of Lake Nipissing, as expressed on maps, is only a rough guess. It seems to have two deep bays on its north side. The officers of the Magnetic Survey found it to be 695 feet above the sea.

"When Mr. Sheriff ('Quebec Historical Society's Transactions,' vol. ii. 286), says that the south shore of this lake is a level tract, with a rich heavy soil, and extending many miles southwards, with little rise, he cannot mean the country within sight from the water. Good land

in Canada is frequently at some distance from large rivers.

"He goes on to state that about the sources of the Madawaska near latitude 45 deg. 15 min., the interior of the country forms a great table-land, growing hard wood, and gradually sloping towards Lake Nipissing. Along the south-west route of the rivers Newwarbie and Muskoka this kind of country extends from within thirty miles of the Ottawa to the immediate vicinity of Lake Huron, 140 miles.

"On the whole, Mr. Sheriff says (vol. ii. p. 239), 'from personal inspection, that in this unnoticed part of Canada a fine habitable country will be found, millions of acres in extent. I hope it will, ere long, be rendered accessible to population.' In the face of the prolonged and severe winter here prevailing, I fear that until the rich soils of Lakes Ontario, Erie, and St. Clair, are taken in possession, there is little chance for these wildernesses. They may be worked for marble, iron, or copper."

From this they got to "Lake Huron (a stormy water, a thousand miles round), among shallows, reefs, and tortoise-backed mounds. Its shores here are low and barren, but the back-ground rises higher. The blue line in the south, resembling a long low cloud, is the Great Manitouline Island."

Passing hence to the St. Lawrence Highlands, not much visited, the author says:—

"About a couple of miles beyond Etienne, and separated from it by high grounds partly cultivated, is a small lake, one of many hereabouts, full of delicate trout. This lake is bounded on one side by precipices, and elsewhere by woods and clearances, backed by sugar-loaf mountains.

"The materials for these sketches and descriptions I obtained in the course of five days, and chiefly on foot. I was prevented from doing any thing on the second day by an extraordinary fog of a deep coffee colour, lasting the whole day, and requiring in-doors strong artificial light. On walking out I could not see objects three yards off. I descended to the beach and saw nothing. I only heard the ripple and lazy splash of the wave. I have not seen any London fog at all equal to this in density. It left no deposit, and had no smell."

If we wander backwards and forwards, our apology must be that we follow our leader. Here for a general sketch:—

"In the country parts of Canada few young men get above the class of 'gents,' and the elders seldom rise higher in their notions than the second-rate retired tradesmen at home. There are here and there some few loftier minds, driven into hiding-places by misfortune; but they only mark, and so thicken, the general gloom. There is not enough of the fine gold of English society to make a public impression. In England the female gentry, in their respective rural neighbourhoods, do a large amount of good, as living examples of wisdom, generosity, and gentleness.

"I advise only the uneasy classes of Great Britain to live in Canada; the easy classes, however, I strenuously advise to visit it. . . .

"Muddy Lake, a part of Lake Huron, is so named from the nature of its bottom. It is nine miles across from east to west, and about the same length. Its boundaries may be seen by a glance at the map. The shores run into deep and often grassy bays.

"There is a series of small streams and lakes which lead from Lake George to Goose Islands, near Michillimackinac, which furnishes a short and quiet way thither from St. Mary's. Brine springs are common upon this route, and Goose Islands have a considerable deposit of gypsum.

"St. Joseph belongs to Canada, and is a compact island, seventeen miles by twelve in general dimensions, its length running south-east.

"Its interior rises to the height of 500 feet by

three tiers of rich woods, which are called the 'Highlands of St. Joseph.'

"At its south-eastern extremity there had been for thirty-five years a small British post, until about the year 1820.

"It is fertile. Its coasts are broken into bays with a few islands about them. It has at least two creeks. They are on the south and east sides. One is at the south-east cape, near an excellent harbour.

"Our surveyors, rowing a mile or two up this stream, were surprised one day to find a neat log-house far up in the woods, with a patch of Indian corn and other vegetables. It was inhabited by an Indian widow and her daughter. Nothing could exceed the cleanliness of this lodge in the wilderness. They were not alarmed at our visit, and came to our camp for needles and such-like little matters. They were Roman Catholics, and pleasing, well-conducted people. We had not been aware of any one being upon St. Joseph; it is a jungle containing only bears and other wild animals. We did not afterwards meet with any one who knew them. Two lone women in such a desert in the howlings of a Canadian winter!—what resignation and trust in a presiding Being!!

"Drummond Island," now assigned to the United States, "is twenty-four miles long; its greatest breadth twelve miles, and its least two and a half miles. It is separated from the American main by a strait of about a mile across.

"This post was established by General Drummond about the year 1812. It is healthy, but most dismal,—a mere heap of rocks on the edge of an impenetrable medley of morass, ponds, and matted woods.

"I observed in two or three of the houses, in the village of Indian traders and their half-breed children, that some of the rooms were lined with moss and birch-bark,—a very good contrivance in so cold a climate.

"In 1823, the garrison consisted of two companies of infantry. It may be well to put down a few notes on garrison life on the frontier of a British colony.

"The friendly and intelligent gentlemen of the garrison had little to do save read, hunt for fossils, fish, shoot, cut down trees, and plant potatoes. Their military duties took up little of their time. Now and then they made an excursion to Michillimackinac, or they rowed over to St. Joseph's to inspect the government herd of cattle grazing there.

"They had few or no visitors,—a few Indian traders, and an inspecting-officer once a year. They were more than 2,000 miles from the nearest British military station.

"Their shooting was either utterly unproductive, or so abundant as to cease to be sport. Pigeons and ducks at certain seasons are so plentiful that it is said (I do not vouch for the fact) that you have only to fire up the chimney and a couple of ducks will fall into the pot.

"Judging from my experience, the officers fared hard and yet did not save money. Every pound of fresh meat came from a distance, and therefore was dear. The island grows little else than potatoes. . . .

"The men were employed as much as possible at one kind of work or other; but both drunkenness and desertion were too common. They obtained whisky from the village in spite of strict regulations to the contrary, and had no notion of saving their surplus pay. As a less demoralising mode of getting rid of the soldier's money than buying whisky, the commandant in my time sent to Detroit, 300 miles, for a small company of players, into whose pockets the men joyfully poured their money. Among these strollers there was a modest and very pretty young woman, the daughter of the manager, Blacchard by name,—one or two of the officers went crazy about her; but, in the midst of the excitement,

the commandant suddenly shipped off the whole party, and the flame went out.

"Desertion is scarcely to be prevented when soldiers are placed so near the frontier of the United States. There is, at least, a change for them, and they expect for the better.

"While I was there, an order came from Quebec to the post, forbidding the employment of Indians in capturing deserters; for during the preceding summer five soldiers started early in the morning across the strait to the American main, and made by the Indian path for Michilimackinac. On arriving there they would be safe.

"The commandant sent half-a-dozen Indians after them, who in a couple of days returned with the men's heads in a bag.

"The Indians knew a short cut and got a-head of their prey, and lay in ambush behind a rock in the track. When the soldiers came within a few feet of them, the Indians fired, and in the end killed every one of them."

Having descended Lake Erie, our author relates that:—

"Having been sufficiently long at Mackinaw, Mrs. Macvicar, my good genius, engaged a seat for me in the canoe of an Ottawa chief, going to Drummond Island with his people for presents—not with her splendid brother, but with the Blackbird (I do not mean our soprano of the woods).

"The price of my conveyance, I am sorry to say, was a couple of bottles of rum.

"When introduced to this great warrior, as I had heard him described to be, I was surprised to find before me a small man, with a knowing little face, which would have fitted a country shoe-maker. There was no melo-dramatic nonsense about him.

"I was provided with a lump of ham, a large loaf, and a bottle of whisky, stoppered for want of a cork, with half of one of Miss Edgeworth's novels (doubtless originally from the garrison), and then was told that the Indians had embarked.

"Running down to the beach with my knapsack and provision-bag, I found a little fleet of twenty-five canoes on the point of starting; and was bidden by signs to jump into the canoe nearest me, but seeing no room, I hesitated.

"The craft was not large. On the prow, where there is a little shelf, there sat an unquiet young bear, tied with a cord,—two smoking Indians and three children sitting on the canoe bottom, next to him. Then came four women rowers, among whom I was to squat, or nowhere. The stern-half of the canoe was occupied by the Blackbird and a friend, with three more young imps and a steersman. Two or three dogs kept constantly circulating among our legs in search of dropped eatables, who so far approved of my ham that I was fain to keep it on my knees.

"But we all settled down into a sort of stiff comfort.

"The water was as smooth as glass. The strong unclouded sun was in mid-heavens. We moved away with many an uncouth antic and shriek, both on land and lake, and I was once more abandoned to the happy-go-lucky do-nothings of the Indian race.

"They certainly never intended to go further that day than a well-known point fifteen miles distant, on the south-west main; for seeing that there was the gentlest possible of all airs in our favour, when they had gained the open lake, the ladies dipped paddle into the water but seldom, and most delicately, falling into that murmuring musical gossip we hear in an aviary. And thus it was all the fleet through.

"We proceeded, therefore, lazily and irregularly, greeting by turns every canoe as we passed or were passed. The heat was intense, but I saw no Indian drink; sufficient for him was the pipe—that brought the complacent reverie.

"I employed myself in a variety of ways—in

watching my neighbours, and especially the bear, who knew the others, but not me. I counted the 240 circular buckles of silver on the back of one of the women, fastened close together like the links of chain armour, each worth about tenpence. Her neck was hid under blue and white beads, and she wore broad anklets and armlets of silver plate. She had also slung over her back, by a white cord, from her neck, a massive silver cross, eight or nine inches long. The other women, likewise, had on similar visiting finery.

"The men were grandly dressed with chamois leather leggings, ornamented with fanciful traceries in porcupine quills, and fringed on the outer seam with red moose-hair. They wore broad breast-plates of silver, with their name or device engraved on it, and armlets and fore-armlets of the same metal three or four inches broad.

"Some had European hats, with broad bands of solid silver, silver cord running here and there, and an ostrich feather. Others wore a stiff, high round cap, covered with red moose hair, which streamed over their shoulders.

"It must be remarked, that although the general effect was very fine, the details were often defective; for instance, their many-coloured or red shirt of stiffened calico, made very full, was not always of the newest.

"To the great delight of my cramped limbs, at six in the afternoon, we put on shore on a shingle point, with a few bushes, and some drift-wood ready for burning.

"As soon as we landed, two or three men started with a net into a little bay close by, and in less than a couple of hours returned with a good catch of salmon-trout for general distribution.

"Meantime, the Indian women built the wigwams,—a simple process—made the fires, pounded the maize, walked up to the knees into the lake, and there scoured their noisy children well all over.

"The men lounged about, playing at duck and drake with the taller boys, all screaming most triumphantly at a capital throw.

"I saw, indeed, nothing but good feeling among these people."

We conclude with an entomological illustration:—

"Lieut. Grant and myself were entomologising near our tents, when a splendid and quite new butterfly sprang up. We pursued it eagerly for a good way along the river-side, making many an useless dash at the prize, when the insect darted across the stream and escaped.

"Casting our eyes to the ground, we saw the olive, and instantly fell to work in taking specimens. All this time, unknown to us, there were Indians in the woods on the other side of the river, following our every step in perfect amazement, persuaded that we were mad. And why? Because we chased a poor insect,—lost it,—and in our impotent rage were smiting the dumb rocks. They intended to seize and convey us to our friends; but seeing that we afterwards became calm, they refrained.

"Of these kind people, and their intentions, I only heard accidentally two years afterwards in a public stage-coach in the state of New York, 700 miles to the south-east! A gentleman was entertaining his fellow-passengers very cleverly with the little story, and was greatly amazed by my telling him that I was one of the butterfly-hunters."

The Doctor adds—

"I met with ninety new species of insects and two new genera. They have been described, and some of them figured, by the Rev. W. Kirby, F.R.S., in the 'Fauna Boreali-Americana' of Sir John Richardson. A list of them will be found in the Appendix."

For this and the geological reports we must refer to the work, and conclude by saying, that

though very desultory, it contains a great deal of information.

Letters of a Traveller; or, Notes of Things Seen in Europe and America. By W. C. Byrant. Bentley.

STILL more extended, and consequently still more diversified, is this volume, from the pen of the popular American poet. He ranges and leaps from place to place, so as to make it quite impossible to "realize" his points. France, Italy, the United States, England, Scotland, Ireland, Belgium, the West Indies, Germany, Switzerland, and heavens knows where else, are touched in every way: arts, antiquities, politics, scenery, &c., &c., &c. What can we do or say, but refer to the volume, as full as an egg of entertaining matter.

DEFENCE OF QUAKERISM.

Memoirs of William Penn. By T. Clarkson, M.A. New edition, with a Preface by W. E. Forster. London. Gilpin.

THE preface is the gist of this otherwise new and cheap edition of a standard work, and it is directed to a refutation of Mr. Macaulay's charges against the character of Penn in his brilliant "History of England." The quarrel is a pretty quarrel as it stands, and, as bottle-holders, we are bound to say, that we do not think the Quaker, Man of Peace, has the worst of it. On the contrary, some of his hits are very hard, and several of his arguments knock down blows upon the adverse guard. But as there are many rounds in the fight, it is out of our power to report them *serialim*, as the sporting journals do the prize encounters. Upon the whole, it does seem as if the historian had written upon a prejudice, that some of his statements are not sufficiently supported by credible authorities, that conflicting testimonies and alleviating presumptions have been left out of sight, and that even on the most potent of the allegations, there is much to be urged on the other side. Mr. Forster sets out with an *invenio* in the form of a general proposition, and asks of the History:—

"Whether its accuracy will stand the test of critical inquiry the future public will decide; but there can be no question, that, as a story well told and pleasant to listen to, it has bewitched the ears of the public to-day, and that eventually it will rank, if not as an actual history, at least as a most attractive and eloquent historical romance.

"In turning over its pages, so full of descriptive and oratorical power, we feel as though we were wandering through a gallery of pictures, or rather in quick succession they flit before our eyes, for the reader has no work to do—is merely required to look, not think—portraits so vivid, features so striking, that in our admiration of the artist's talent, we care not to inquire whether they are really likenesses, true copies from nature, or merely the creations of his own fancy."

He then refers to Penn's universal fame, quoting Macaulay's admission that "his name has thus become, throughout all civilised countries, a synonyme for probity and philanthropy," and observes:—

"But is not this verdict of posterity, so unanimous and so favourable, which the historian thus records, not because he agrees with it, but rather to enhance his own valour in daring to dispute it, in itself, by the very fact of its existence, strong argument in behalf of its own truthfulness? For man is not so prodigal of praise as to bestow it on his fellow without a reason. If a reputation outlives the power of its possessor, there is good ground to believe it is the reward of his deeds. Time tests us by what we are, not seem to be: only the fruitful plant escapes its scythe; the weed, however rank, is relentlessly mown down."

This reasoning is not good for a crush, for Macaulay himself is one of the mowers brought

forth by Time, and he might retort the position upon Mr. Forster.

The latter is more successful in weighing some of Macaulay's verbal expressions, to show that they cannot be reconciled with his conclusions against the acts and character of Penn; as for instance:—

"A sense of religious duty' can scarcely be called 'strong' which does not save its possessor from 'transactions condemned by the sense of all honest men,' even though 'bribes be offered to his vanity;' and it is strange that one 'whose life furnishes abundant proof that he was not a man of strong sense' should not only have 'notions on points of high importance more correct than were in his day common even among men of enlarged minds,' but should be 'able to carry his theories into practice,' and practice so successful, that 'he will always,' excepting of course by Mr. Macaulay, 'be mentioned with honour.'"

Mr. Forster next contrasts *verbatim*, the historian, with the authorities (Wilmot's Life of Hough, for instance) to which he has himself referred, and states thereon:—

"One remark, however, is needed before making these quotations. By a mode of lumping facts, which, though with most historians it would be accounted strange, is by no means rare with Mr. Macaulay, whose artistic fancy not unfrequently induces him to sacrifice accuracy of perspective in his pictures to effect in the grouping of his figures, he manages to give the impression that the transaction he describes was one incident, or at least an unbroken series of events, instead of comprising, as was the case, three distinct incidents, occupying altogether a space of more than a month."

We hope we shall be forgiven, if we enter no farther into this controversy. The Society of Friends have good reason to be satisfied with their champion; but whether Mr. Macaulay may consider it expedient to reply to him, we cannot conjecture. All historians are liable to error, but in this question, deliberate malice preposse and other misdoings are imputed. It is, therefore, if proven, of a class of offence beyond mere venial mistakes, such as we could notice in the same quarter; as, for instance, giving King James' Chancellor, the Duke of Perth, a third brother which he never had, *penes nos* as author of the Perth volume, published by the Camden Society. These are, however, but specks, common to every great literary undertaking; the Penn question is of graver character.

RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS.

"Wring hard words, jealousies, and fears,
Set folks together by the ears,
And made them fight, like mad or drunk,
For Dame Religion as for punk—"

When Gospel trumpeter, surrounded
With long-eared rout, to battle sounded—"

Has the wheel of life rolled round to the same spoke and tire? Is the world 200 years older, and not a week wiser? It would seem so, from the number of angry polemical and other jarring religious publications with which our table is crowded, notwithstanding the number dismissed last week.

Church and State. Mozleys.

A ZEALOUS pamphlet for the Church of England, and claiming for it, if cast off from the State, or rather divorced by the Crown, to be prepared for its higher functions, of which neither State nor Crown can divest it, as the religious teacher of the people.

The Clergy and the Commons. By a Layman. Pickering.

AN appeal for the eligibility of Clergymen to be elected into the House of Commons, and, after the due performance of their pastoral duties in the first instance, to take their share in politics for the public good.

The Mercy-Seat. By Gardiner Spring, D.D. Edinburgh: Clarks. London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

A FINE elaboration of the petitions in the Lord's Prayer, with every principle and sentiment in which all good men will agree. We earnestly recommend the volume to Christian readers, and all who value the efficacy of pure prayer.

On the Present Crisis of the Church. By W. F. Hook, D.D. Murray.

THE active-minded Vicar of Leeds says the marks of the Beast are upon the Church of Rome, and that those who join it in consequence of the decision in the case of Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter will take a fatal step to a union with anti-christ and fundamental heresy. He denies that the decision of the Council damages the position of the Church, which remains intact, Catholic and Protestant, as before.

The Doctrine of Holy Baptism briefly explained. By the Rev. C. E. Douglas, B.A. Brighton: King. London: Masters.

THREE sermons, in which the distinction is drawn between regeneration and conversion; and, admitting the former to be effected by baptism, insists on continued faith and a holy life for the completeness of the sacred rite.

Infant Regeneration: a Sermon. By the Rev. Dr. Croly. Kendrick.

AFTER a most able view of all other Scriptural baptisms, the author forcibly asserts the operation of regeneration by the baptismal rite.

Reason, Revelation, and Faith. By a Bengal Civilian. Smith, Elder, and Co.

THE author holds peculiar opinions, shared probably by many others, that the dogmas of original sin and exclusive salvation to professing Christians are only supported by gross inconsistencies; and that reason, as well as revelation, have been given to man for his guidance by his Maker.

A Vindication of the Church of Scotland. By the late Patrick McFarlan, D.D. Nisbet.

Is an examination and reply to the Duke of Argyll's "Essay on the Ecclesiastical History of Scotland," and asserts "the Headship of Christ" above all civil tribunals or governments.

The Happy Church. By the Rev. R. M. Macbrair, M.A. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

THE Church is so far from happy at this time, and so torn by dissensions, that we rejoiced to read a title which would present it to us, like the Happy Families of birds and beasts at Trafalgar Square and across Waterloo Bridge, in a state of agreement and tranquillity. It, however, inculcates a spirit of love and evangelical union, without which the name of Church is vain, and its associations useless.

A Letter on Frequent Communion. Edited by the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett. Cleaver.

WARMLY enforces Fenelon's advice, and earnestly desires a return to frequent communion to rescue religion from the coldness which the writer affirms to have usurped its energy.

Reason and Faith. By Henry Rogers. Longmans. A REPRINT from the able article on Strauss from the *Edinburgh Review*, with additional remarks on his "Life of Jesus," in refutation of his mythical origin of Christianity, and subsequent reasoning in rejection of miracles.

Remarks upon the Record Newspaper. By an Incumbent of the Diocese of London. T. D. Thomson.

THIS journal is considered as the organ of the Church of England, and is accused of want of proper temper and piety in its editorial writings. Some of its statements are quoted, and severely commented upon. *Non nostrum componere lites.*

The last Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, at Exeter Hall, was preserved from disorder by the interference of the police.

The Early Conflicts of Christianity. By the Rev. W. J. Kip, D.D. Longmans.

A CONCISE historical view of the progress of the Christian religion, from the days of the Apostles to the age of Constantine, and anticipating in good time the ascendancy and glory of the Church. The style is very good, and suitable to the subject.

God in Christ: three discourses delivered in America. By Horace Bushnell. John Chapman. AN elaborate argument in support of the Trinity and the incarnation of the Godhead in Jesus.

PARISH REGISTERS.

A Letter addressed to R. Monckton Milnes, Esq., M.P., "On the Condition and Unsafe State of Ancient Parochial Registers in England and the Colonies." By S. Browning Bruce, Esq. Ridgeway.

THIS little pamphlet has many strong claims upon our attention, and its author, Mr. Downing Bruce, deserves the thanks of the public for the zeal with which he has taken up a subject of real importance. Not to speak of the historical value of some of them, how many questions of family descent, involving the rights to estates and other property, have been cleared up only by the entries in these parish registers, which have been termed, with some truth, the family title-deeds of the middle classes; but in almost three cases out of every four, where we make an inquiry, we shall find that most of them have been lost or destroyed by the negligence of the keepers, or are in such a state of dilapidation as to be almost useless. It is high time to remedy this evil, and at least to save and make the older registers which remain easy of access. We are glad, therefore, that Mr. Bruce has brought the matter before the public, and we hope that Mr. Milnes, to whom his letter is addressed, will bring it before the legislature: his talent and earnestness cannot fail to be successful.

Mr. Bruce gives a number of instances of the fate to which these local records have been subjected. Thus, to quote from one county only, that of Suffolk, we have:—"Brampton. 'The early registers were lost in 1797, when the church was repaired.' Chederton. 'Register supposed to be in the court at Norwich.' Whatfield. 'Mutilated; a half leaf being cut out between 1807 and 1808.' Little Thornham. 'The earlier registers were burnt in a fire, which consumed the parsonage-house of a neighbouring parish.' Elden. 'A bundle of registers tied together.' Copdock. 'The early registers are reported to have been burnt.' Shelland. 'An early register is supposed to be in the possession of the patron, Charles Tyrell, Esq.' Bagton. 'Badly preserved.' Ellough. 'Negligently kept, and in some places crased.' These are, as I observed, the entries for one county only. A few more casual glances will discover—'fragments of registers'; 'leaves cut out'; 'leaves torn out'; 'injured by damp'; 'mutilated'; 'destroyed by fire'; 'much torn'; 'imperfect and almost illegible'; 'in bad condition'; 'in a tattered condition'; 'early registers are lost'; and many other such sad confessions of unfaithful custody of what it is impossible to estimate either the past or the future consequences."

Among other instances of negligence, we may quote:—"Whenbury, Cheshire, where a volume of registers, anterior to 1684, was sent to the House of Lords on the question of the Leigh Peerage." Berwick, co. Suffolk.—'A register of baptisms, taken to Peasmarch by the former minister, which has never been recovered.' Wix, Essex.—'There are some earlier registers, but they are in the hands of a solicitor, with reference to some legal proceedings.' Otterford, co. Salop.—'About twenty years ago the churchwarden, who was a shopkeeper, used some of the registers

for waste paper to enfold his goods.' Althorp, co. Lincolnshire.—'There are two register books of earlier date (supposed to commence 1483) which were taken away by the archdeacon in 1824.'"

The researches of Mr. Bruce and his friends furnish us with worse cases even than these:—"Besides my own personal experience, I have had much communication on the subject with many gentlemen, who either by literary pursuits or professional avocations have had occasion to observe and lament the condition of our Parish Registers, more particularly with my friend Mr. Walbran, of Ripon, who, for several years, has been making extensive collections for a history of the county of York, in continuation of that by Dr. Whitaker. He has often assured me that there are few Parish Registers in that wide and most important district, in which something unsatisfactory may not be found, either in respect of careless preservation, frequent lacunae, brevity of series, or erasures and interpolations. Some time ago he found part of a Parish Register among a quantity of waste-paper in a cheesemonger's shop, and has rescued the small but very interesting register of the chapelry of Denton, in the county of Durham, from the fate which once had nearly befallen it, by causing several literary copies to be printed and deposited in public libraries. Among other instances of negligent custody, he relates, that 'the Registers of South Otterington, containing several entries of the great families of Talbot, Herbert, and Fauconberg, were formerly kept in the cottage of the parish-clerk, who used all those preceding the eighteenth century for waste paper, a considerable portion having been taken to *singe a goose!*'"

EMIGRATION: THE SOCIAL SYSTEM.

Laing's Observations.

[Second Notice.]

In the *Literary Gazette*, No. 1738, we devoted a fair share of our space to one of the portions of this work, which contrasted the moral condition of London with that of other home and foreign parts; promising that we should return to some more of his important topics and original views as opportunity served. In pursuance of this design, we begin with his denunciation of Emigration:—

"Suppose," he says, "thirty families, or a hundred and fifty individuals—a shipful, in short, of emigrants—embarked for America or Australia. Suppose them fitted out with the very smallest allowance of food, clothes, bedding, utensils, tools, and other necessities of life, that they can exist with, until their own labour and land begin to support them. If they are not to perish in the forest, they must be provided, at the least, with a stock of all things needful for eighteen months; because, if they go only to Canada, or to the nearest of our American provinces, they arrive too late in the spring to build a habitation, provide fuel, clear land, and sow a crop to be reaped in autumn, in the same year of their departure from the mother country. The seasons are too hasty in America for emigrants to overtake a spring seed-time, after a spring voyage across the Atlantic. A year and a half's stock, therefore, of all things must be laid in at once, within a week or two of the vessel's sailing; that is to say, the expenditure for all kinds of needful articles which would have been spread over a year, or a year and a half, of their existence, but for the emigration of these one hundred and fifty individuals, is thrown at once into two or three weeks,—thus giving a false stimulus at home in this country, as far as their outfit and expenditure goes, to every branch of manufacturing industry connected with the articles they take with them; and giving thus a false stimulus to population at home, in all those branches of employment. The

stimulus is false, because it is no real and permanent increase of consumption, but only a false appearance of an increased consumption, from a year and a half's demand being squeezed into a month's, and thrown at once into the market. In the outfit of one hundred and fifty individuals this may be a trifle; but in the outfit of half a million of emigrants yearly—and less would be no effective diminution of the yearly increase of our population—this stimulus to population by great but temporary employment at home, in all trades connected with their outfit, creates the very evil it is proposed to cure. Now, take the vessel that is to convey the thirty families, or one hundred and fifty individuals, into consideration; reckon up, if you can, the carpenters, smiths, sail-makers, rope-makers, sailcloth-weavers, riggers, founders, coopers, chandlers, bakers, butchers, bankers, merchants, clerks, labourers, seamen, and all the ten thousand and ten trades and ramifications of industry, set agoing, and for a short time beneficially, profitably, and thus with a bounty, as one may say, for those so employed entering into matrimony, from the mere additional employment given by the outfit of this vessel alone, and of her cargo of one hundred and fifty individuals,—and tell me if the exportation of the thirty families, the vacuum they leave, be not over balanced and filled up, by the stimulus given to marriage and population at home, by 'the breeding in all its branches' encouraged and set agoing by this very remedy for over-population? The families, too, you export are necessarily people of some small capital of their own; or, at least, with health, strength, and capability of work, in them—the very class you do not want to get rid of; and the people you keep at home are paupers, the infirm, decrepid, sickly, the infants, the aged, and the mass of operatives unfit for any kind of work but the one particular branch of manufacture they have been bred to in the factory, and which is overstocked with labour—the very class you want to get rid of by emigration, although the least adapted of any class to earn a living, as emigrants, by field labour. Keep down the redundancy of population by encouraging emigration! Reverse the proposition—promote excess of population by encouraging emigration, by giving population the stimulus of emigration—employment, and you come nearer to the true practical working, upon our home population, of any emigration or colonisation scheme, on a great scale, with government aid. The rising flood of population is not to be kept down by the teacupful drainage of ship emigration. We might as well try to bale out the North Sea into the Atlantic, by sending all the milkmaids in England to dip their pails into the ocean at Flamborough Head and empty them into Plymouth Sound."

This is certainly a paradoxical opinion, but there is some truth in the details; and it is, therefore, worthy of consideration. We leave the topic, however, for what appears to us to be a much sounder estimate of the grand principle at issue at this day throughout the civilised world, and which we have so lately witnessed convulsing it with all the horrors of civil war:—

"If we sit down, and try to sketch that social condition which practically must be of all others the least favourable to the establishment and permanence of free institutions, and to the liberty of a people, we come unexpectedly and unwillingly to the conclusion, that it is the social condition which approaches nearest to a perfect equality. Liberty and equality! these are two elements which cannot co-exist in society. Liberty and property! the old cry of the English mob was practically, and theoretically, a more true and philosophical combination of ideas; for liberty would have no protection, guidance, or defence, without a class having, by their superior stake of property, the confidence of the people. The United States of America began with such a class, at their disrup-

tion from England—a class of gentry of old standing in the country, and possessing all the influence and *prestige* that superior education, fortune, and station in life, could give. Washington and almost all the leaders in the struggle for American independence were of this class; were in every respect the equivalent class to the English gentry or nobility. But such a class of independent proprietors, with a considerable stake, and a proportionable influence in the country, has not formed itself on the European continent by the breaking up of the estates of the feudal aristocracy, and of the Crown and Church domains. A very near approach to equality of condition has been made—nearer by far than in the American republic, because there commerce, capital, and industrial enterprise, are widening every day the difference of condition between the different classes; but this equality on the continent of Europe, which extends to education as well as property, seems to be no nearer approach to liberty. A republic cannot be formed out of a mob equal, each man to his neighbour, in rights, pretensions, claims to support, and to public confidence—equal in fortune, education, influence, and clamour. This can only be an anarchy in which nothing is influential, stable, and secure. A limited monarchy with no limiting element of power and influence standing in the social body between the monarch and the people, keeping each in its place, can only be a constitution on paper, and not a working reality. A military autocracy is the only government applicable, or perhaps possible, in this social state of agrarian equality.

"The general distribution of landed property in small estates is attended by another social disadvantage. It throws loose upon a country a vast proportion of the population, clamorous for war, fit only for military service, and to whom war is a necessity, for war only can give them suitable and beneficial employment. This, I am aware, is a very different conclusion from that to which Mr. Cobden and many other able and philanthropic observers, members of the peace congress, have come to, on the same subject. They consider war as an evil which will be speedily abolished in modern society, by that very distribution and diffusion of landed property which I consider a permanent element of warfare in the new state of the European people. They suppose that war never can be the choice of a people generally possessed of property, and having a preponderating influence and voice in their own public affairs; because property, especially landed property, which cannot be removed or concealed, suffers in war, equally from friend and foe, by taxation or devastation; and where the great mass of the population are landed proprietors, having this obvious interest in avoiding war, the most self-willed government must be constrained, they conceive, to maintain peace. If Mr. Cobden and the many excellent men who fondly cherish this hope, would examine more closely the actual practical working of the small estate system of land occupancy in France, where they were recently assembled in their peace congress, they would see that, in almost every peasant proprietor's family, there are one or two grown-up young men, the sons and heirs of the labouring proprietor, who have no employment at home until the small estate becomes vacant by the death of their parents. Their additional labour is not required for its cultivation, while the parent is able to work, and it cannot afford them bread, after they are grown up, for labour not required. It is, however, a secure living to look to, and to fall back upon after the parent's death. This mass of population includes a large proportion of all the youth of France and Germany, of an age and habits suitable for military service. In France alone, there are 10,282,946 landed proprietors. If we allow one-

third of these ten millions to be heads of families with sons grown up, while the parent is still able to work, and cultivate his little property, what a vast body of young men we find, in this social state, ever ready and eager for military service and warfare! To learn a trade or handicraft which cannot subsist them until they have acquired it, and which they would have to abandon as soon as their little heritages fall to them, is by no means so suitable to their position in life, even in a prudential view, as to enter into military service, in which they are fed, clothed and lodged from the very first day; are engaged for a term of years which they can very well spare; and are then free to return to their little heritages, or to re-engage, according to their prospects. Military conscription is not an evil, not even a hardship, in a society in this state. The great body of landed proprietors, living each family on its own little farm, employing little manufacturing industry beyond its own fireside, buying little, and having little to buy with, can give no employment to each other, or to the idle and unprovided for in the social body, as producers and consumers, in time of peace any more than in time of war. There is no market in this social state for the products of the common peaceful arts—no employments to absorb the increase of population. War is a necessary sequence of the social state of those countries in which landed property is generally, and almost equally, distributed—war abroad, or tumult and revolution at home.

THE GREAT RIVERS OF THE EAST.

The Expedition for the Survey of the Rivers Euphrates and Tigris.

[Second Notice.]

"ALTHOUGH of a grave, phlegmatic, and even a listless exterior, the Turk is remarkable for his gentleness towards his children, and he makes no difference between them and his slaves or other servants. In addition to alms to the widow and the orphan, his generosity is frequently exercised in constructing mosques, khāns, and fountains; trees and burial-grounds are his delight; and horses, dogs, cats, and pigeons share in his consideration: scarcely anywhere else are birds so tame and so much linked with mankind as they are in Turkey; even children respect their nests, and it is not by any means uncommon to find tombstones on which, in addition to the sculptured devices indicating the vocation and sometimes also the manner of the death of the deceased, a little basin has been hollowed out by the workmen, in which the smaller birds find a supply of water. These tombstones are usually beneath the shade of a cypress tree or a rose bush.

"In summing up the character, it may here be observed that, truth, openness, and candour, contentment and entire resignation to his lot, are qualities seldom denied by any one to the Turk; his memory is extraordinary, and his judgment is generally sound, while the safety of travellers, as well as the attention commonly paid to them, sufficiently proves his fidelity and hospitality. Religion, such as it is, being founded upon the Khorān, pervades almost every act of his life, and mixes with every occupation. Frequent prayer is universally practised, whether the individual be in the bath, the field, the coffee-house, or the mosque; and, as alms are freely bestowed, abject poverty may be said to be scarcely known in the country."

This contrasts well with the character of the Arab, which we select for a great variety of information on the habits of this always interesting people. Colonel Chesney's impressions of the natives is, we observe, invariably favourable, and he found the Arabs desirous of entering into friendly relations with us.

"It is difficult to imagine any contrast more striking than that which is presented by the

Bedawin in a town, and the same man when breathing the air of the desert. In the latter case, although indifferent to the beauties of nature, his spirits become elevated, the indolence and silence which characterises him in a town is exchanged for the highest degree of animation; and he indulges his lively imagination in inventing or relating tales, and at intervals, on a journey, screaming out some wild song, which, however agreeable to himself and encouraging to his camel, is anything but harmonious to a stranger. His cheerful disposition, his frugal repast, and an active, hardy life, are well calculated to secure the best possible state of health, with unimpaired faculties, till an advanced age; his quickness of sight and hearing are scarcely exceeded by those of the North American Indians, and the habits of an erratic life have taught him to trace the footsteps of any particular individual or animal. This singular power is called *kiafat*, or *ath*, according to Burekhardt, and is said to be more particularly possessed by the tribe of Moodlij. An Arab has been known to trace the footsteps of his camel for six days along a sandy valley which has been crossed in every direction by thousands of other footsteps, and also to name every individual who had passed. He is accustomed, also, by placing the mark of his foot at a certain spot, in a particular direction, to make known to his friends that he has been there, and also the route he has taken. His tack enables him to find his way across the desert, independently of the compass, which is rarely used by him on land."

Among other new statements in this work, our ideas are correcting respecting the sandy deserts of Arabia, and its real state is thus described:—

"These unpromising tracts have probably given rise to the belief that Arabia is merely a vast arid desert, either interspersed with spots of fertile ground, or almost entirely a desert; whereas, the greater part is of the fourth kind, called *Barr* by the Arabs, which, in fact, is merely an uncultivated land, diversified with hill and dale, like the Dorsetshire downs. It bears the liquorice plant and some aromatic shrubs, and thousands of sheep feed upon a thin short grass, which grows in almost every part of the country at present known to us. Moreover, we learn from sacred as well as profane history, that the Ethiopians, the Assyrians, the Hebrews, and the Egyptians, crossed the wilderness of Arabia at various times with immense armies, and, consequently, the country could not then have been a barren desert; the practicability of such movements was evident to me in my two journeys from and to Damascus. During the first, which was towards the end of the autumn of 1830, the coolness, even in the day time, rendered a cloudless sky desirable, whilst we suffered severely from frost at night; in the second journey, which was in the summer of 1837, the heat was very oppressive during the greater part of the day, but the nights were most agreeable. We were gratified also from sunset to daybreak, and more especially in the evenings and mornings, by the sweetly cheering notes of the nightingale, issuing from the liquorice bushes, which generally covered the plain; but as we approached the lower temperature at the foot of the Syrian mountains, we no longer heard this unexpected tenant of the wilderness."

The range of the Lebanon is pleasingly described:—

"It is almost entirely composed of masses of limestone, rising abruptly from the valley of Zahle and Baalbec, or Coele Syria on the eastern side, whilst on the western, there is a succession of lower mountains forming wooded basins and rich valleys, which extend from thence to the sea coast, northward of Beirut. As the crests of this part of the great range are covered with perpetual snow, they must have a very great

elevation; on their steep sides are forests of pines, oaks, and other timber, while at the intervals are plantations of mulberries; and grain is cultivated on a succession of narrow terraces, supported by stone walls. In certain places these little gardens completely encircle the mountain basins, for which this part of the country is so remarkable, giving to them, in consequence, the appearance of gigantic amphitheatres, of which the scattered flat-roofed cottages seem to form separations between successive rows of seats. Rich and varied scenery of this kind, interspersed with convents, vineyards, villages, and towns, prevails on the western slopes of the principal chain (Jabel el Drus), which inclines rather west of south, keeping usually at the distance of 12 or 15 miles from the coast, till, a little way south of Kal'at-es-shukif, it is broken by the Nahr Kasimiyeh or Leontes."

As another specimen, we give the descriptions of Palmyra and Damascus, both beautiful in their different characteristics, and both brought vividly before us in the following extracts:—

"Palmyra does not consist of mere heaps of mounds, like the ruins of Akkad, Babylon, Chalne, Nineveh, Sus, and Troy, with some of which it was no doubt contemporary; for having been reconstructed with durable materials, the principal buildings yet remain to attest its ancient grandeur. The city of Palens has not, however, the striking boldness of Bāalbec, nor the unique character of Persepolis; nor is its general aspect equal to the *coup d'œil* of Jerash, from the great temple; yet, from its situation, touching a wide-spreading wilderness on the one side, and a mountain range, rising like a huge wall abruptly from the plain, on the other, it produces, in some respects, an effect beyond that of the cities just mentioned. It displays ruined colonnades, temples, and arches extending about a mile and a half westward of the temple of the Sun, with a wilderness of columns in every state, from the most finished specimens of art, to that of complete destruction. A closer examination is not, however, free from disappointment, in consequence of the mixed nature of the architecture, and the columns being of different ages and various sizes."

Damascus follows, and her present prosperity is an argument much in favour of those who contend that the prophecies regarding Babylon and the east are yet to be fulfilled:—

"This city, to which are applied the epithets, Eden of the Muslim, one of the Gates of the Kaaba, and the Eye of the East, occupies the centre of a tract of productive fields and luxuriant garden ground. Like a pearl in the desert, it is situated near the eastern slopes of the anti-Lebanon, and its territory forms the principal part of the territory of El Gutha, a district containing about 80 villages, which probably represents the ancient and limited kingdom of Aram or Syria of Damascus. With the exception of the suburb of Salahiyyah, a mile and a half to the northwest of the city of Praise, and the city of Joy, as it has been designated, occupies level ground, and the view from the suburb, as well as that from the opening of the hills beyond, is strikingly beautiful. The mass of the town forms a triangle, one side of which extends nearly three miles N.W. by W. from Salahiyyah, and another almost an equal distance N.E. by N. It is surrounded by the remains of its ancient walls, and within is a castellated citadel, besides the usual proportion of khāns, baths, serais, sparkling cupolas, and tapering minarets; it is embosomed in flower and fruit gardens, dotted here and there with numerous kiosks shaded with trees, the whole forming a wooded belt at least 30 miles in circumference, which terminates on one side in an almost boundless wilderness. The interior of the city is not unlike, but on the whole, it is rather superior to, its

younger sister, Grand Cairo, and its character is more particularly oriental; perhaps more strikingly so throughout than even Baghdád or Ispahan."

We do not remember ever to have met with an account of the descendants of the early inhabitants of Syria, who are thus introduced to us; and with this extract we must close, recommending the book itself to the study of the reader:—

"It is not improbable that the territory at the south-western extremity of the Pashálik of Aleppo contains a tribe of Syrians, who are the descendants of the earliest people of the country; they occupy the ravines on the northern slopes of Jebel-el-Akrab, and Anti-Casius, as well as some of those on Mount Rhosus and the Amanus; and they live in small secluded villages. Their houses usually have sloping roofs, covered with tiles; and the better kind contain two small rooms for the family, with others for the animals; but in general there is only a single apartment, one end of which is appropriated to the animals, and the other to the family; a kind of separation being formed by a row of high conical earthen vessels, called kowari, which contain grain, flour, &c. The building is either of wood and clay, or rubble masonry; and is frequently within or adjoining a mulberry garden. Agriculture, and the care of silk-worms, with the preparation of silk—which last is chiefly performed by the women and children—are the occupations of the people. They have some good horses, and numerous bullocks for farming purposes. The dress of these Syrians consists of a coarse muslin turban, twisted round the head, like that of the Bedawins; also a long and coarse cloak, of white woollen, with common boots, or shoes. The women's dress is likewise of home manufacture, and they do not cover the face.

"The food is particularly simple, consisting principally of eggs, milk, and coarse bread, with a large proportion of cucumbers, water-melons, and other vegetables. They appear to be unacquainted with the tenets of the Korán; and not having any knowledge of a sabbath, their mysterious rites have been thought to be connected with some kind of idolatry; be this, however, as it may, it is but right to observe that, during our lengthened intercourse with this people, we almost invariably found them well disposed, and of a particularly gentle and retiring disposition. Indeed, before the arrival of the Egyptian Páshá, the existence of this branch of the Syrian people scarcely seems to have been known."

THE SOONEES.

Lives of Mahomet and his Successors. By Washington Irving. Vol. II. Murray.

[Second Notice.]

We return to this work, not for the sake of pursuing the account of the successors of Abu Beker (see *L. G. No. 1734*) in the Caliphate, but to notice an Excursion which has just been made by our Commissioners on the Persian Frontier to Measheed Alec (Ali) and Kherbeleh, the burial places of Ali and Hoseen, who were set aside by the other companions of the Prophet, and founded a sect, to which the Persians belong. And we do so the more emphatically, because this question of Mahometan theology is most important in considering the present as well as the mediæval state of these countries where the differences prevail.

The chief points, we may remark, upon which the Persians or Sheeaks differ from the Soonees, to which sect the Ottomans and majority of the Indian Mahometans belong, are three in number, and, firstly, The Sheeaks reject Abu Beker, Omar, and Othman, the three first Kalifs, as usurpers and intruders; whereas the Soonees respect them as rightful Imaums.

Secondly, The Sheeaks prefer Aalee (his son-in-law) to the Prophet Mahomet, or, at least, look

upon him as his equal in every respect; whilst the Soonees admit neither Aalee nor even any of the Prophets to be equal to Mahomet.

Thirdly, The Soonees receive the Soona, or body of traditions concerning the Prophet, as of canonical authority; the Sheeaks reject it, as apocryphal and unworthy of credit.

Abu Beker, as we stated from Irving, was chosen by the Council of Chiefs and Elders, who assembled after the Prophet's death to elect some one to succeed him. Aalee, who, as cousin and son-in-law and first disciple of the Prophet, considered he had the best claim, and was, in fact, supported by a large party. He expressed his discontent, but did homage to Abu Beker as his lawful sovereign. Abu Beker, on his death, nominated Omar, whom Aalee at once acknowledged; and Omar dying without nominating a successor, the Council was again convened, and Aalee was offered the Caliphate, under conditions with which he declined to comply, but which Othman accepted. On Othman being assassinated, Aalee was chosen his successor, and was, in his turn, assassinated, A.D. 660, A.H. 40, at Koofah. One of the three assassins was slain on the spot, the second beheaded, by order of his victim, before he expired, but the third escaped. Aalee was buried at Koofah, and a sumptuous monument was built over his tomb, A.D. 977, A.H. 376, by Samsaon el Dowlet, a prince of the race of the Buiaus, who reigned at Bagdad as Emeer ul Umra under Khalif Thai. This sepulchre is called by the Persians Kumbad foid Alanwar (the Dome of the Dispenser of Light and Grace). Of Hassan and Hoseen, sons of Aalee, and grandsons of the Prophet, the elder was chosen to succeed his father as Khalif; but being unable to contend with Moawijah, Governor of Syria, who disputed his title, he abdicated in favour of his rival, A.D. 661, A.H. 41, after a reign of six months, and after having lived for seven or eight years in retirement at Medina, he died, and was buried there. His brother Hoseen made an unsuccessful attempt to recover the Caliphate from Gezeed Moawijah's son and successor, but was, A.D. 680, A.H. 61, defeated, slain, and his body buried at Kherbeleh, where his tomb and shrine are still to be seen; his head, however, having been cut off, was sent to the Khalif Gezeed at Damascus. His children, wives, &c., were permitted to retire and reside at Medina. (*Vide Irving, passim.*)

As is ever the case among sectaries of the same religion, the utmost antipathy exists between the followers of Aalee and those of Othman, and the Bishop of Exeter cannot be more inveterate against the Judicial Committee and the Gorhamites than a Turkish Pasha is against a Persian Khan. Either prefer a Christian, or even one of that confession by Mahometans of all the most abhorred—a Jew, to his co-religionist of the heretical sect; and a grave Ottoman Ulemah went so far as to assert, "that in the last day the followers of Aalee would be metamorphosed into jackasses, in order to be ridden by the Jews to hell."

Hoseen, the unfortunate grandson of Aalee, fell in battle at Kherbeleh, and Aalee, the hated of the Soonees, was murdered at Koofa, the site of which is now only marked by mounds of sand.

Kherbeleh has, therefore, become a holy place of the Aalecites, and as the Jew is prepared to make any sacrifice that his bones may rest in Jerusalem, so the Aalecite hoards his resources to obtain the honour of burial at Kherbeleh. The Persians have been termed the French of the East, and certainly they are the cleverest and most entertaining of all Orientals, not perhaps the less so from that noble and independent disregard of matters-of-fact which prevent their allowing a good story to be spoiled by adverse incidents. The religious bigotry of the Kherbehilites is excessive; but bigotry tends as little to improve morals in the Persian Gulf as it does in Rome or at Exeter Hall. Caravans are con-

tinually passing through Bagdad, bearing the live bodies of present, and the dead carcasses of former, devotees—the first for the purpose of sanctifying their somewhat unholy lives, the second for the purpose of interment in the holy soil of Kherbeleh. This fact is a striking proof of the extent to which religious enthusiasm may be carried; the expenses of caravan travelling are great, and the distances traversed immense, yet the Persian who can muster the means is sure to direct his heirs to have his body laid in this much-envied burial-place.

Τὸ γὰρ γέρας ἐστὶ θάνατος.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

SIR,—As an acknowledged well-wisher to the arts, I am sure you will be glad to insert the following statement, estimated from the Catalogue, if it be only for the consolation of those who suffer annually from the very limited means which the Academy have at their command for displaying the works of other than their own members. All the world knows now what the line signifies in the arrangement of pictures for the exhibition. An eight feet high demarcation running all round the gallery, to be suspended from which is the post of honour; to be placed above, except in the case of very large or indifferent pictures, or near the floor, is accounted grievous usage. Now, Sir, the line in the three great rooms for oil paintings is well known to constitute the cynosure of the exhibition. I, of course, exclude the octagon room, or black hole, out of pure charity to both exhibitors and hangers. In the present exhibition the line contains 75 pictures, and as the members have the preference in their own rooms, it follows, very naturally, that 37 exhibiting members and associates, out of a total of 60, sending any number not exceeding eight each, should swallow up almost the whole space. And so it is: for the members occupy 69 places out of the 75, the remaining six places being left to do honour to a selection from the 434 pictures in these rooms, which were produced by 338 non-members—that is, 37 members occupy 69 places on the line, while 338 non-members occupy six places.

Again, these three rooms contain 576 pictures; 37 members produced 142 of them, and 338 non-members produced 434—above three-fourths of the whole. Thus, you see, Sir, that a non-member, one of the 338, who has no other means* of coming before the public than through this exhibition, has almost no chance at all of having his works fairly seen and appreciated, however kindly the members may feel disposed to lend him a helping hand. This may be truly called "the pursuit of painting under difficulties!"

Why cannot the Minister give the whole range of galleries to the Royal Academy, and send the Old Masters, where Professor Faraday says they ought to go if they are really to be preserved, out of the smoke and filth of the centre of London. In return for such a boon, it cannot be doubted that the doors of this circumscribed institution would respond to the spirit of the age, and open wide enough to admit the acknowledged talent outside. This could not fail to prove a source of sincere gratification to the members themselves, as professors of the liberal art, since it would remove a load of anxiety which annually presses on them respecting the fair and honourable treatment of the works sent for exhibition by their untitled fellow-labourers in the vineyard of art.

AN EXHIBITOR.

* The laws of the Academy allow of no exhibitor sending his works to any other Institution of Art in London at the same time.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

THE circular has gone forth to summon the British Association to meet at Edinburgh, on Wednesday, the 31st of July, under the welcome Presidency of its founder, Sir David Brewster. The Vice-Presidents are a goodly list, including the Lord Provost, Justice General Boyle, Dr. Lee, Principal of the University, Dr. Alison, Prof. Forbes, Lords Cathcart and Rosebery, General Sir T. M. Brisbane, &c. And when the famed hospitalities of Scotland are added, there can be no question of a most gratifying meeting.

LINNEAN SOCIETY.

THE President in the chair. A leaf of the much-talked of *Victoria Regia* was exhibited from Sion House. The plant itself was lent for show at Chiswick Gardens. An essay on dry rot was read, which sought to prove that the disease proceeded from a particular part of the wood, whence it spread in all directions. A letter from Sir F. Beaufort was read, enclosing a communication from Baron Von Humboldt, on the propagation of gulf-weed. The President expressed his opinion that there were more than one species, and that it probably propagated itself whilst afloat, and not brought, as was supposed, entirely from the western shores by the gulf stream.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

March 7th.—Lt. Col. Reid, V.P., in the chair. Read:—1st. "On the Application of Carbon deposited in Gas Retorts as the Negative Plate in the Nitric Acid Voltaic Battery," by Mr. C. L. Dresser. The substance deposited in gas retorts assumes a variety of forms and appearances, some of them of great beauty. The density and hardness vary also as considerably. The most general form appears to be minute scales, like the section of a hollow sphere; sometimes it is deposited in thin layers. The scales are deposited on each other until the whole has the form of mammillar protuberances, sometimes of great metallic brilliancy, having but little aggregation and easily crumbling betwixt the fingers. On heating this specimen a little sulphur is driven off; this I believe to be mechanically mixed, otherwise the carbon is very pure. Specimen No. 2 has the same form as No. 1, but more solidity. No. 3 has the same form, with considerable hardness. No. 4, the same type of form, but the mammillar protuberances are large and apparently solid, but when exposed to a red heat for an hour exhibit the same laminar form as the previous specimens. In some specimens the mammillar form is lost; the carbon has great hardness; very little porous, if at all, and the fracture stony; and this is the carbon which the author uses as the negative conductor in his nitric acid battery, and plates of large size and sufficiently thin to use in porous cells may be obtained. The most convenient form for the negative conductor, he says, is the prismatic, 1½ inch square on the side and about 7 inches long, immersed in the acid 4 and used with round porous cells, the zinc cylinder being 3 inches in diameter and 4½ inches high. The carbon is cut into thin plates or prisms by the machine of the marble cutter, at a cost of about 1½d. each. The prisms may be easily obtained 12, 14, or 18 inches long, and might be used with porous cells 12 inches long, from which a large quantity of electricity would be generated; his porous cells are four. The only precautions necessary in using this form of carbon, are after using the plates to immerse them for a few moments in boiling water, to take the adhering acid, and dry them before a fire or in a stove; if this be neglected, the acid will, by absorbing moisture, keep them damp and affect the connexion. The connexion is made by

soldering a strip of sheet copper to the zinc, and pressing this strongly against the carbon with a clamp. The surface of the carbon should be rubbed smooth where the connexion is to be made, and the more firmly it is pressed with the clamp the better the connexion. Comparing these plates with plates of platina, the author can detect little difference in action, but the carbon appears rather superior. His battery of 100 plates cost under 4l., whilst one of platina of equal power would have cost 60l. or 70l.

2nd. "Experimental Researches in Electricity." Twenty-third series. § 29. "On the Polar or other Condition of Diamagnetic Bodies," by Dr. Faraday.

March 14th.—Mr. G. Rennie, V.P., in the chair. Dr. Faraday's paper, (see above) was resumed and concluded. The author, whilst developing, on a former occasion, the phenomena of diamagnetic action, said that all the results might be accounted for by assuming that bismuth, phosphorus, &c., when in the magnetic field, became polar as iron is polar, but with the poles in the contrary direction. This view has since then been adopted by Weber and others, and supported by certain experimental results. In the present paper these results and that view are brought under very close examination. An apparatus was constructed by which a cylinder of any given metal could be moved to and fro through about two inches in the direction of its axis. In doing this it approached close up to, and then retreated from the pole, of an electromagnet, and also moved within a helix of covered wire which was fixed in relation to the magnet. Now the action of such a piece of metal upon the helix is very different in theory and also in reality, according as it is dependant upon a polarity, magnetic or diamagnetic, acquired by the metal, or upon induced currents existing in the mass, and the question was to ascertain by experiment, whether the latter were the cause of the results obtained by Weber and others. The various diamagnetic metals gave the results looked for at the indicating galvanometer; but then these were almost insensible with bismuth, and were greatest with gold, silver, copper, and the better conductors, being indeed in proportion to the conducting power. Such results were in favour of induced currents, rather than of polarity.

Division was next resorted to as a distinguishing test of the polar or current action; thus a cylinder made up of lengths of wires acted as well as a solid cylinder, if the metal were one acquiring a polar state as iron; but such a division interfered with the existence of induced currents in the mass, and it was found that such wire cylinders of copper, &c. lost all power. On the other hand, division of the cylinder into innumerable discs interfered greatly with polarity, but not at all with the induced currents, nor with the action of the diamagnetic metals. The places of maximum and minimum action of a cylinder of metal are very different according as that metal acts by a polar condition or by currents induced in the mass: it is shown by experiments with the diamagnetic metals that their places of maximum and minimum action accord with the effects of induced currents. Time has great effect over results produced by currents induced in the mass, and none over those due to polarity. By this test the effects of the diamagnetic metals are found due to induced currents. The phenomena produced by the use of the present apparatus are then shown to be in close and direct relation to the phenomena of revulsion formerly described by the author: the parallel is closely carried out and extended, and both sets of effects referred to one and the same cause. The author endeavours to repeat an experiment described by Reich, but without success; and he finds, that even when iron is used, no arrangement of magnets can produce any test of polarity, at all comparable to the use of an astatic needle, or to suspension between

the poles of a powerful magnet, and thinks, that arrangements which are thus less sensible with iron, are not likely to be more sensible with diamagnetic metals, even if they are polar. Finally, the author does not consider that the idea of diamagnetic polarity has gained as yet any additional proof beyond the fact that diamagnetic bodies, such as bismuth and phosphorus, are repelled by one or both magnetic poles; he does not reject the idea of polarity, but his opinion or judgment remains the same as at the time of his announcement in 1845.

Read, also, "Paper IV. On so-called Chylous Urine." By S. H. B. Jones. The general results are,—1st. That the most important changes in this disease take place independently of the influence of digestion. 2nd. That the urine in one respect only resembles chyle, and that is in containing, after digestion, a large quantity of fat in a very fine state of division. The supposition that the disease consists in an accumulation of fat in the blood, which is thrown out by the kidneys, carrying with it albumen, fibrin, blood-globules and salts, is altogether disproved, both by actual analyses of the blood, and by the frequent occurrence of a jelly-like coagulum when no white fatty matter can be seen to be present. 3rd. The disease consists in some change in the kidney by which fibrin, albumen, blood-globules and salts are allowed to pass out, whenever the circulation through the kidney is increased; and if at the same time fat is present in the blood, it escapes also.

March 21st.—Prof. Owen, V.P., in the chair. Read 1st.—"Extract of a letter from Mr. Richardson, to Viscount Palmerston, dated off Jerbah, 25th January, 1850. 'I will trouble your Lordship by the mention of the astronomic phenomenon which arrested or terrified the attention of the whole of this coast some two months ago. This was the fall of a shower of aërolites, with a brilliant stream of light accompanying them, and which extended from Tunis to Tripoli, some of the stones falling in the latter city. The alarm was very great in Tunis, and several Jews and Moors instinctively fled to the British Consulate, as the common refuge from every kind of evil and danger. The fall of these aërolites was followed by the severest or coldest winter which the inhabitants of Tunis and Tripoli have experienced for many years.'"

2nd.—"Discussion of Meteorological Observations taken in India at various heights." By Lieut. Col. Sykes, commenced, but not concluded.

April 11th.—Prof. Owen, V.P., in the chair. Lt. Col. Sykes's paper (see above) was resumed and concluded. The author adverts to a former paper "On the Meteorology of the Deccan," published in the "Philosophical Transactions" for 1835, and, after referring to the conclusions at which he arrived in that communication, states that, in the discussion of the meteorological observations which form the subject of the present paper, and which were made over a very extended area, at different heights, some being hourly and running through several years at the same station, it is very satisfactory to find that they fully establish the accuracy of the former deductions. He remarks, that as some of the observations now discussed were hourly records continued through considerable periods of time, an opportunity has been afforded of investigating abnormal conditions, which the former limited number of diurnal observations did not permit, and gives a review of what appears to be normal and abnormal conditions. But the author observes that to be enabled to speak with any precision upon most of the branches of the meteorology of India, or with a comprehensive and philosophical object, hourly observations are necessary,—simultaneously taken with previously compared instruments by zealous observers; and having the records in a form common to all the observers, so as to admit of rigid comparisons;—when this is

done, not only in India but in Europe, meteorologists will be in a better condition to generalise and propound normal conditions than the state of our knowledge at present would justify; for it must be borne in mind that *Error latet in generalibus*.

Read also, "On the Structure and Use of the Ligamentum rotundum Uteri," by Dr. G. Rainey.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

April 24th.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair. Read: 1st. "On the Diluvium of Wick, Caithness." By Mr. J. Cleghorn. In examining the Till or Boulder Clay of Wick, the author had particularly noticed the fragmentary state of the majority of the shells contained in that formation. In accounting for this phenomenon, he considered as inadmissible the action of icebergs grating over the sea bottom, which has been brought forward by some as a sufficient explanation of the existing condition of these shells. The large and strong shells would be broken, as is here the case; but the smaller and more fragile shells also would have been comminuted, a condition which does not always obtain in the Till. The author thought, however, that the condition in which small shells and fragments of large shells, of kinds similar to the Till shells, are found in the stomach of the catfish, common in our seas, would be a likely explanation of the condition in which the shells of the Till are usually found.

2nd. "On the occurrence of Marine Shells in the Till, near Airdrie." By Mr. J. Smith. In the Till or Boulder Clay, stratified beds of sand, gravel, and laminated clay, are of very rare occurrence. These sometimes are found immediately below the Till, and are apparently fragments of an older alluvial covering, which has not been entirely removed by the same, whatever it was, that lodged the Till on the surface. In digging a well near Airdrie, some stratified beds were found lying in the Till, one of which contained *tellina proxima*, an Arctic species, abundant in the Clyde pleistocene beds overlying the till. This bed of shells is 510 feet above the level of the sea, and 150 feet higher than the highest level at which any other such beds have been found in Scotland. From the general character of the contents of the shelly bed at Airdrie, and from similar Till shells previously collected by the author and others, at Wick, Thurso, Gamrie, Loch Ryan, and Dundee, he concluded that the Till and the stratified beds, which lie immediately below and above it, all belong to the same geological period, viz., to that which immediately preceded the present, and which has been named by Professor E. Forbes the Glacial Epoch.

3rd. "On the Bunter Sandstein of the Vale of the Nith." By Mr. R. Harkness. The author describes the extent of the red sandstone of the district adjacent to Dumfries, and gives detailed accounts of the various quarries in which it is exposed. Beginning from below, there are, 1st. sandstone flags, with impressions of footprints, similar to those of Corncockle Muir, of more than 130 yards in thickness; 2nd. beds of conglomerate, sometimes passing into sandstone, 100 yards thick; and 3rd. a series of sandstone and clay beds, containing (at Annan) impressions of the footprints of *Cheirotherium*, about 100 yards thick. Having considered the probable conditions of the sea that deposited the flaggy sandstones, the author proceeds to state that the fragments composing the conglomerate were probably derived from rocks of granite and whin surrounding the bay in which the conglomerate was deposited, and that its sandy matrix was probably derived from the carboniferous grits of Cumberland; a reflux action of the tide depositing the cliff debris seaward, and an afflux of the tide bringing the sand to be deposited amongst the rock fragments.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, May 25.—The prizes this year have been awarded as follows:—

Chancellor's Prizes.—Latin Verse.—Herodotus and Olympian Musas sua recitans—J. H. Abraham, Commoner of Balliol. English Essay.—The Ancients and Moderns compared in regard to the Administration of Justice—G. O. Morgan, B.A., Fellow of Worcester, and Craven Scholar. Latin Essay.—Quamobrem tanto studio apud Græcos servata fuerint, tanto neglecta apud Romanos obruta, Artis Poeticæ primordia—E. St. John Parry, B.A., Balliol. *Sir Roger Newdigate's Prize*.—The Niger.—W. A. Russell, Luby Scholar, Magdalen Hall.

CAMBRIDGE, May 23rd.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Masters of Arts.—H. W. Baker, A. Garfit, A. A. Van Sittart, Fellows Trinity College. *Licentiate in Medicine*.—J. Anthony, Caius College. *Bachelor in the Civil Law*.—M. Clark, Magdalen College.

Bachelors of Arts.—C. S. Bagot, C. P. Boverie, E. P. Cearns, W. Hardman, J. Mirehouse, E. W. Whitfield, Trinity College; J. C. A. Bones, S. Evesfield, J. T. Fisher, F. F. Lofly, H. W. Smith, C. J. S. Walker, C. J. Waterhouse, St. John's College; A. G. Garland, St. Peter's College; C. W. Burton, M. G. Jolley, J. M. Nixon, Clare Hall; J. Murray, Caius College; W. Greenwood, R. S. Philpott, T. A. Pope, St. Catharine's Hall; G. Gyles, W. Pinney, Christ's College; C. P. Rowley, Magdalen College; H. H. Matchett, Emmanuel College; T. J. R. Hilton, P. R. C. Metcalfe, Corpus Christi College.

Admissions ad eundem.—Professor Cosmo Innes, M.A., Balliol College, Oxford, (Professor in the University of Edinburgh); E. Peel, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

May 11th.—Twenty-seventh anniversary. John Shepherd, Esq., Chairman of the East India Company, in the chair. The annual report of the Council began with the usual statement of deaths and resignations of members, and new elections; and proceeded with a tribute of regret to those of the deceased fellows who were generally known as having taken an active share in advancing the objects or promoting the welfare of the society. Among these, the names of Sir Charles Forbes, Sir Graves Houghton, M. Louis Hayes Petit, and Sir Archibald Galloway, claimed a distinguished place. The obituary of Sir Graves Houghton entered into considerable detail of that gentleman's learned career, from the time when his extraordinary attainments in India were rewarded by medals and prizes, to the period when his philological and scientific publications made his name familiar to the learned world. The report then went on to congratulate the Society on the appearance of the first fruits of Major Rawlinson's researches in the ancient history of Assyria and Babylonia, in the number of the Society's Journal just issued, and then on the latter, and announced that the more extended memoir of Major Rawlinson was in progress, and would appear in a following number. Allusion was made to the portrait of Professor Wilson, the director, which had been presented to the Society by a large body of the members, as a mark of their respect for the unwearied exertions of that gentleman in promoting the cause of Oriental literature. The notice of the members was directed to the portrait of the daughter of the Governor of Shanghai, painted by her father, for the express purpose of presenting it to the lady of the British Consul in that city; also, to a large plan of a portion of Cashmere, painted by a native artist. The accession of new books of interest was mentioned; among others, the *Rig Veda*, published at the expense of the East India Company; the new edition of the *Zend Avesta*, by Professor Brockhaus; and the first portion of the *Bibliotheca Indica*, from Calcutta. The finances of the society came next under review; the excess of expenditure over income, and the decrease of the reserved balance was mentioned; and it was regretted that the exertions of the society in bringing out so many valuable contributions to Oriental literature and archaeology should not meet with a more liberal support. The report then announced a proposed revision of the rules of the Society, by which facilities would be given for the introduction of temporary sojourners here from the East.

The report of the Oriental Translation Committee promised the publication shortly of another portion of the *Travels of Evluja Effendi*, by the Baron Hammer Purgstall; and stated that the celebrated Makâmât-al-Hariri, by the Rev. T. Preston, was already in the press, and would appear in a few months. The completion of the fifth volume of Haji Khalfâ's Lexicon was also mentioned; also the preparation of a translation from the Ecclesiastical Biography of the Syrian Church, by the Rev. W. Cureton, and of *Uthbi's Kitab-al-Yamini*, by the Rev. J. Reynolds. The reception of the report was unanimously voted by the meeting, and thanks passed to the council and officers respectively for their services during the past year. Thanks were also voted to the Chairman, which he acknowledged in a suitable address. A ballot took place for Officers and Council, at the close of which it was declared that the Officers of the preceding year were re-elected, and that the following gentlemen were elected into the Council:—James Atkinson, N. Bland, Beriah Botfield, Esqs.; Maj.-Gen. J. Briggs; Capt. W. J. Eastwick; J. Ferguson, G. Forbes, J. Mac Pherson Macleod, Esqs.; Rear-Admiral Sir C. Malcolm; Major J. A. Moore; Major-Gen. Sir Wm. Morison; W. H. Morley, E. C. Ravenshaw, L. R. Reid, Esqs.; Lieut.-Col. W. H. Sykes; and W. S. Vaux, Esq.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS OF THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Entomological, 8 p.m.—Chemical, 8 p.m.

Tuesday.—Linnæan, 8 p.m.

Wednesday.—Geological, (Mr. Darwin on "Fossil Lepidopoda," Mr. Weston on "The Diluvium of the Neighbourhood of Bath," Rev. H. M. de la Condamine on "The Tertiary Strata of Blackheath," 8 p.m.—Archæological Association (Council), 4 p.m.—United Service Institution, (Major Adams on "Fortification: Attack and Defence," 3 p.m.—Royal Botanic, 3 p.m.

Thursday.—Royal Zoological (Election of Fellows), 3 p.m.

Antiquarian, 8 p.m.

Friday.—Royal Institution, (Mr. Faraday on "Certain Conditions of Freezing Water," 8 p.m.—Botanical, 8 p.m.

Saturday.—Horticultural (Exhibition at the Garden.)

FINE ARTS.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY—NO. IV.

It is a difficult task, after reviewing above thirty years' exhibitions, not varying essentially from each other, and very seldom producing a "lion" for comment, to diversify the critical remarks which custom (of own establishing, too, and the pattern now so extensively followed by the periodical press) ties us to deliver. The cant of art-criticism it is true, is very easy and very imposing, but the repetition, even of this formula, gets to be tiresome, and it never had the merit of being instructive. We are thus reduced almost to a catalogue *raisonnée*, and with little material for general observation. On repeated visits to the Academy, however, we cannot but be more struck with several prominent features which seem to grow into more force and distinctness, to the injury, as we think, of our native school. There are three styles leading to extensive imitation, and which either belong to the secondary or retrograde classes of art.

1st. We have the refined specimens of the Italian masters, placed between the 1st and the only source of true inspiration which these masters studied. Thus we become copyists of copies, and rarely of the highest rank. One affects the softness and finish of Carlo Dolce, another the colouring of Giorgione, and a third perhaps (as Mr. Dyce has this season done very successfully) the tone and expression of Raphael. In some instances, no doubt, very able pictures emanate from this practice, but the soul is not there. They are smooth, finished like miniatures, most carefully manipulated in every respect; but they are at least one remove from nature, and when the best of them come in turn, to be the originals for younger hands to form themselves upon, the weakness and vice of the system are shown in many an effort of multiplied effectness.

2ndly. We have the strange fancy of painting back to the quaintness and dryness of the oldest schools. Antiquity is preferred to improvement, and the defects of men, wonderfully gifted for the period in which they lived, are esteemed as beauties to be severely imitated. The absurdity of this increasing blunder stares us in the face wherever we look, and it ought to be noted also, that though quite competent to give us a tolerable idea of their stiffness and other imperfections, our modern Albert Durers and Holbeins are equally incompetent to give us any idea of the substantial excellence of those whom they affect to rival.

3rdly. We have the yet more novel folly of reverting to the yet more ancient Art, for models to copy. The Byzantine and its immediate revivals, are again to be revived in the 19th century, and a pre-Cimabue college set up amid the busy marts of London, as if they were monkish cloisters, and our mammon worshippers ghostly saints, repeating *Aves* and *Paternosters* all day long in the Royal Exchange, or corn or coal market, and all night in clubhouses and theatres. So preposterous a course we can hardly imagine likely to be carried farther; but we have already enough of it to mark another element introduced into the national progress or deterioration in the Fine Arts.

No. 257, Miss Virginia Pattle, *G. F. Watts*, is an antiquity, though the lady does not look so old. The Good Samaritan, by the same, is at any rate a bold attempt.

No. 409, Another Cromwell, by *T. M. Joy*, expresses the passions by which the Protector is supposed to be agitated, on refusing the offered Crown. It is too high up to judge farther.

No. 415, A Christmas Party preparing for Blind-man's Buff, *W. H. Knight*, is a production of much merit and promise. The characters are life-like, the composition spirited, and a Wilkie-ness about the whole which ought to have elevated the picture above its low position to be better seen (as it well deserves) by the public.

No. 423, The Star of Bethlehem, *J. Ward*. This, and half-a-dozen other contributions, display some of the qualities of the veteran artist, and show that his wonted fire still lives and emits luminous effects. The Star of Bethlehem, though the most prominent, is by no means the best of these, being a little conjuring or juggling like in the most obvious figure, and the celestial multitude do not make any distinct impression on the mind.

No. 430, The Hayfield. *A. Johnston*. Rather too fine in look but the two figures are good and firmly painted, and there is much pleasing variety in the scene.

No. 438, L'Allegro. *W. D. Kennedy*. For a young artist, a very promising picture. The composition is protuse, and the execution glowing. The silks and satins are executed with a finish that would not discredit the lesser size of performances, such as Metz or Terberg executed.

No. 446, Bacchus discovering the use of the Grape. *G. Patten*. Not objectionable, like the Susannah, but still, we fear, showing no advance in the rising artist for the present year. The Venus especially belongs to our first class above enumerated, and does not seem accurately drawn.

No. 449, The Rivals. *R. Ansell*. Two deer in mortal conflict, done with all the artist's power; but we must ever lament his choice of subjects painful to look upon.

No. 452, Bowlers. *G. Harvey*. A clever picture, in spite of the too closely shaven grass (even for bowls) and the too great and common attitudinizing of all the figures.

No. 457, Isaac Walton angling. *E. M. Ward*. A pleasing summer-looking performance, the piscator rather dandified in dress for the sport.

No. 461, Titania. *H. Pickersgill, jun.* Not a work to extend his reputation, being little above the common-place of a less distinguished hand.

No. 552, by the same, is a piece of rich colour-

ing; the left leg of the principal figure appears to be ill drawn.

No. 474, Christ and the Woman of Samaria. *J. Linsell*. The colour of all is of a ruddle, which we cannot reconcile to nature. It is, nevertheless, agreeable and rather rich in tone, and harmoniously spread over the canvass.

No. 481, Jessica and Launcelot. *J. Hollins*. Simple yet effective. Of its order one of the best things in the exhibition; the characters well expressed and the author altogetherably represented.

No. 484, Venice. *W. Linton*. A fine Guard, if not a good Canaletti!

No. 491, The Burial of the two Sons of Edward IV. in the Tower. *T. Cross*. A brave effort, but almost monstrous in execution.

No. 505, Martha reproved. *H. Le Jeune*. A sacred subject of considerable merit. Martha is feelingly conceived.

No. 507, Venus and Adonis. *S. Gambardella*. High up to be sure, but we cannot recognise the artist's Titian-tone of colouring.

No. 517, Milton's Dream. *C. W. Cope*. Has little to recommend it, and to our eye, seems to be a mistake of the quotation. The whole is in shadow, and difficult to make out. The vision, "all in white," is, on the contrary, all in dark; and a splendid poetical subject, susceptible of most touching illustration, is turned to small account.

No. 525, Too Truthful. *A. Solomon*. A ludicrous caricature scene of a portrait painter offending his customer by making too exact a likeness. What a noble thing, and vast improvement, it would be in our annual exhibitions if three-fourths of the artists in portraiture disgusted and drove off their sitters in the same way!

No. 533, Lady Murchison's "Good Doggie." *E. Landseer*. Lady Murchison's pet is living, and will never die. The head is perfection.

No. 535, Berengaria. *C. Collins*. One of the specimens of the olden dryad-st era.

No. 541, Baptism in Scotland. *J. Phillip*. The clergyman is a caricatured Puritan; the mother a transparency; and there are far too many people for the ceremony, which itself does not smack much of Scottish customs.

No. 553, A Converted British Family, &c. *W. H. Hunt*. One of the ancients, and tapestry not painting.

No. 565, Beatrice Cenci. *W. Maddox*. A revolting subject, and quite unfit for art or exhibition.

No. 568, A Lady Sketching. *Mrs. Carpenter*. One of the simplest and sweetest of sketches. Other pieces from the same graceful easel, will, we trust, come within our limits to specify.

No. 571, Charles I. parting from his Children. *C. Lucy*. This, and No. 572, Harry Percy, &c., by *R. Hannah*, deserve more praise for their aims than for the manner in which they have been achieved.

In the West Room (the subject of our present summary) we ought again to notice No. 411, The Last Man, *J. Martin*, a picture whose lurid glare and curiously wrought speckly foreground attract every eye, and the best parts of which are the architectural ruins and the water in the centre.—No. 416, A beautiful Sunset, by *T. S. Cooper*.—Nos. 441 and 445, two gems of different orders, by *D. Roberts*, the first, a grand contrast of Nubian relics, and the last a shrine of exquisite finish.—No. 456 a Kitchen Interior, by *C. Landseer*, in the best Dutch or Flemish style.—No. 462, A Shadowy Pastoral Scene, by *T. Woodward*.—No. 492, a choice little bit of nature on the river Avon, by *W. E. Dighton*.—No. 493, The Child's Prayer. *R. Redgrave*. Not human child or mother, but a spiritualized allegory. No. 534, by the same, a captivating landscape of trees, with sunshine gleaming through them, and No. 573, Spring, *F. Danby*, which is a red spring, if ever there were such a season; certainly not in Thompson.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Dr. Macbride. Painted by *W. Salter*. Engraved by *Lupton*. Oxford: Wyatt and Son.

Of this speaking likeness of the venerable head of Magdalene, we had occasion to report, as we saw it finished on the spot, in Oxford, and witnessed "the counterfeit resemblance" and the original so close together, that comparison was complete. Now that Mr. Lupton has translated Mr. Salter, we may say that, between the two artists, nothing could be more perfect. The style of both is most appropriate. The painter has given ease, dignity, and expression; and the engraver has preserved them all in a tone of colour, embracing the head, hands, and collegiate costume, which it would be impossible to surpass. Well may the many friends of Dr. Macbride rejoice in possessing so faithful a representation of him in his habit as he lived.

Wordsworth. B. R. Haydon. T. Lupton. Those who are acquainted with poor Haydon's striking likenesses in chalk, will be prepared for the most characteristic and forcible portrait of the Poet, which is here as admirably executed by Lupton. The extraordinary head, and the strongly marked features (the nose almost too marked,) are delineated, as genius ought to delineate genius. It is a precious and lasting work for the portfolio of every lover of our arts and literature.

W. R. Hamilton, Esq. Hering and Renington. We cannot express entire satisfaction with this likeness of the distinguished writer and Secretary of the Dilettante Society. It is like, but it is not so agreeable a likeness as it might have been. The markings of the lower features are not sufficiently made out, and the whole expression is not so acute and intellectual as we have ever seen it in the original.

Lord Gough. By Harwood. Grundy. A CAPITAL lithograph of the veteran Irish General. He looks like a fighting man, or a Limerick Boy, who would in his earlier days sing out "who cries paze?"

The Gallery of Distinguished Americans. Nos. 1 and 2, from Brady's Gallery, New York Wiley, Putman, &c.

This gallery is announced to contain portraits of twenty four of the most eminent Americans since the death of Washington, (with biographical sketches) and appears, from what has reached us, to be got up in Daguerreotype in good style. General Zachary Taylor, the eleventh and present President, opens the ball with a strongly marked countenance. The second number is a remarkable portrait of J. C. Calhoun, the son of an Irishman, and now about 70 years of age, and yet one of the greatest orators in the States. There is much of genius in his looks. The literary portion of the work is written in rather a magniloquent and King Cambyases vein.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Wednesday.

The scientific world continues to be occupied, almost to the exclusion of every other matter, with M. Arago's communications on light, the result of many years' study and experimentation. In the last two sittings of the Académie des Sciences more papers were read on the subject by the illustrious *savant*, and he has not yet got to the end of his learned budget. After combatting, and, as the French allege, proving the erroneousness of certain theories of Newton, the distinguished gentleman, in his last treatises, laid down that Herschell and other astronomers are in error in supposing that the light and heat of the sun are less strong towards the edges than in the centre; and this theory he supported by the detail of some most singular experiments and a good deal of most ingenious reasoning.

M. Guizot, though not indifferent to the crisis in which France is plunged—what reflecting man, whether foreigner or native, can be?—principally occupies his time in literary labours, and, if any reliance can be placed on the *on dit* of literary salons, he entertains some intention of giving to the world a "History of Russia," as a companion to his great works on the English Revolution and on Civilisation.

At no time have sales of collections of rare old books, engravings, and pictures, been so numerous as now. As regards books and manuscripts in particular, it really seems that all the valuable private collections for which France has long been so famous, are to be brought to the hammer. Within the last few days, for example, those of two of the most renowned *bibliophiles* of Europe, M. Quatremère de Quincy, and M. de Saint Albin, have been advertised for sale. In the latter are a curious mass of printed papers and manuscripts, relative to the first revolution, and what is considered a great library treasure, a cookery book of the fifteenth century. From this last it appears that the Soyers of those days made a dinner consist of not fewer than five distinct services, each of which comprised such a vast number of dishes as would cast even the over laden table of a Lord Mayor's installation banquet completely into the shade.

A certain Dr. Jules Guyot, whose name has more than once figured before the public, puts himself forward as the real inventor of the system of tubular bridges, the application of which over the Menai Straits has, as the French would say, brought so much *gloire* to Mr. Stephenson. Mr. Stephenson and his assistants borrowed, he says, certain ideas which he had solemnly promulgated, and imitated certain experiments which he had successfully made. They then gave a new name to the system, in order that they might filch all the merit if it succeeded, but firmly resolved to cast on him, the Frenchman, all the discredit of the failure, if failure should ensue. And he says that, in point of fact, the pretended tubular bridge is not a tubular bridge at all, but a rectangular gallery, and that it possesses many defects, with some merits.

The publishing world is at this moment plunged into a complete torpor—not a solitary work of the slightest literary interest appears in the last official catalogue of new publications; and I learn from one or two eminent printers that scarcely anything is being printed. Yet only a few weeks ago, literary enterprise was, as they say on the Stock Exchange, decidedly "looking up;" but, alas! in these revolutionary days, indications of prosperity come like the visits of angels, at rare intervals, and remain not long.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT'S CONVERSAZIONE.

Institution of Civil Engineers, May 28.—The Sessional Meetings were appropriately terminated by a *Conversazione*, given by Mr. Cubitt, the President, at the House of the Institution. The guests were received by the President, supported by the principal Members of the Council, and assisted by Mr. C. Manby, the Secretary, on whom devolved the selection and arrangement of the models and works of art, as well as the decorations of the rooms, and the direction of all the proceedings of the evening. It was as brilliant and attractive as any of the previous annual gatherings. The several rooms were crowded from an early hour, and the only drawback was the difficulty leisurely and comfortably to examine the numerous works of art, models, working machines, and other interesting objects, so lavishly collected and so well and tastefully arranged for the entertainment and instruction of the assembly. But the fact that nearly a thousand visitors passed through the rooms with so much

of ease and comfort, is a proof of the admirable system and arrangement adopted. The rooms were excellently decorated, all the windows and the staircase being lined with choice flowers, and the Portières draped with beautiful Aubusson tapestry, sent by Monsieur Sallandrouze de Lamornaix, who also contributed several beautiful works of art for the drawing-room tables. The walls were covered with paintings; among which were three well-known Edwin Landseers, "Diogenes," "Shoeing," and "Dignity and Impudence,"—the two latter contributed by Mr. Jacob Bell, who also spared from his collection pictures by Etty, Frank Stone, and Wilme; the other pictures were by Oliver, Fahey, Wood, G. Landseer, Herring, O'Neill, and others. Mr. Mitchell sent a beautiful Watteau, and some delicious French crayon drawings; and the tables were covered with portfolios of sketches by Lake Price, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver, H. Johnson, Nash, and others. Two extremely curious illuminated Holy Books of the Sikhs, contributed by Mr. Edgar Bowring, excited great attention; as did some splendid specimens of Chinese Ivory Carvings and of Silver Chased Work, brought from Ceylon by Sir Emmerson Tennent, and which were appropriately displayed on a fine carved oak sideboard, by Mr. J. Thomas. Messrs. Elkington contributed a fine collection of Electro-deposit works in gold, silver, and bronze; Messrs. Minton, Encaustic Tiles; Mr. Essex, Enamel Paintings; Mr. Le Molte, remarkable Alto-relievo Groups; and Mr. Mayall, fine Daguerreotypes. The mechanical and working models in the large room were very numerous, of which we will not attempt even a numerical list. In the anti-room were Donkin's new application of the Disc Engine; Chubb's Iron Safe; and Jobson's clever and simple Reflecting Stove. The examination of the specimens and works of art occupied the guests until they were drawn away by their host's liberal attentions in the refreshment rooms; and it was not until an early hour of the morning that the last of the guests departed. On Wednesday, the rooms were again thrown open for a few hours in the middle of the day, and were visited by many noble and distinguished ladies, who were desirous of examining the collection, which was explained to them by Mr. Manby, the Secretary, who received the guests in the absence of the President. Jobson's reflecting grate-stove attracted marked attention on both occasions, and, having seen it since in action, we can speak highly and warmly of its excellence. The peculiar features of this invention are that the reflector entirely surrounds the fire; that it can be removed at pleasure with the greatest ease, and that the ashpan is placed out of sight. But more than these, so sound are the principles upon which the efficacy of this stove depends, and so ingenious are the contrivances to adapt those principles to the requirements of room-warming, aye, and of room cooling (if overheated), that we have no hesitation in describing Jobson's as the nearest approach we have yet seen to the perfection of a grate-stove.

BIOGRAPHY.

Miss Jane Porter, the accomplished novelist, died at her brother's, Dr. Porter, Portland-sq., Bristol, on Friday, the 24th of May. She had attained her 74th year, and had for some time been lost to the literary circles and society of London. The cycle of novel writing which she adorned with "Thaddeus of Warsaw," "The Scottish Chiefs," and other very popular productions, has almost entirely passed away, or, at least, fails, by works of its order, to attract the public attention which it rivetted at a former period. Another class, supported by eminent genius, helped to supersede it, and the heroic, the descriptive romance, and their precursor, the broad picture of coarser life, paled before the national

and historical styles. But, in her day, Miss Jane Porter ranked with the foremost for ability to conceive and talent to execute works of high literary art and merit. Her productions excite much interest, and may be read with much gratification to the present time, when Smollett's and Radcliffe's are as seldom seen. In private life it was impossible to meet a more unaffected, amiable, and lady-like individual than Miss Jane Porter. She was well educated, and had always mixed in the best society, and her manners agreed sweetly with her intellectual powers. She is almost the last of the era of female authors to which she belonged. Isabella Kelly (Mrs. Hedgeland), the mother of Sir Fitzroy Kelly, is the only remaining one we can call to mind.

James Duncan, Esq.—The obituary of the week announces the death of Mr. Duncan, so long known as a respectable publisher and bookseller in Paternoster-row. Mr. Duncan was a Scotsman, and began his business career in Edinburgh, from which place he came to London and got into a partnership in Holborn. He afterwards went on by himself, and conducted his affairs with so much astuteness as to have considerable weight on "the trade." Mr. Duncan retired a few years ago, on a well-earned competency, and died at the age of sixty-six, at the house of his son-in-law, Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Henry Caalon, the eminent type-founder, and an old friend and acquaintance of the above; also well known and esteemed by persons connected with literature and publishing, died at Boulogne on the 28th, aged sixty-four.

MUSIC.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—On Saturday Madame Frezzolini sang the part of *Adina* in the *Elisir d'amore*. It is one far better suited to her style, and she acquitted herself well in it. The grand concert on Monday, was hardly equal in its musical pretensions to its predecessor, but being made up for the most part of popular pieces, it went off very successfully, and Thalberg's fine execution of his *Lucrezia Borgia fantasia* formed a very agreeable item in the "bill of the playing." The Thursday's entertainment embraced a variety of attractive pieces. Sontag in *Sonnambula*, Frezzolini in the *Elisir d'amore*, and Coletti and Baucarde in a selection from *Guglielmo Tell*. The production of the *Tempesta* under the composer's (Halévy) superintendence, is looked forward to with unusual interest.

Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.—Ronconi sang for the first time this season, on Thursday night, in Verdi's opera *Nabucco*, called in the bill *Anato*. He was received most warmly, and achieved a great success in this part, new to his English admirers; he was particularly great in the scena "oh di quel onto," and sang the "deh perdona" with the greatest feeling. Mme. Castellan entered upon her amazonian part of *Abigail* with renewed vigour, looking the character admirably, and singing remarkably well; indeed this will be quite an acquisition to her repertoire. Grisi and Mario sang an act of *Lucrezia*. And the entertainments were enjoyed till long past midnight.

The Beethoven Society.—The meeting on Wednesday began the second half of the season, which is to be devoted to a selection from various of the great masters, never, however, forgetting the great Beethoven. The Haydn quartet No. 79, in D major, opened the evening's music: of this we lately spoke as performed at the Musical Union. The quartet No. 4 in E minor, Op. 44, (Mendelssohn) followed; the scherzo of this was beautifully executed, and excited quite a sensation, even so far as to call for its repetition; it is altogether a fine example of the master's quartet writing. Mr. Lindsay Sloper played the celebrated sonata of Beethoven, in C sharp minor, No. 7, called "the Moonlight;" to this grand

work for the piano we have long confessed our passion; it is full of grandeur, pathos, and beauty, and received an excellent rendering from Mr. Sloper. The quartet No. 7 F major, Op. 59, (Beethoven) closed the evening's music.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

SONNET—FLOWERS.

Gems of the greensward and the blossom'd tree,
Flowers! sweet Flowers! How I love ye all,
From the proud Lily to the Daisy small!
Rich purple Violets that embalm the breeze!
Gay Tulips! rainbow-coloured Chalcies!
Curl'd Hyacinths, drooping your graceful bells;
And ye, young sweethearts of the honey-bee,
Roses, wherein the soul of fragrance dwells!
O bright embroidery of Nature's robe,
Wove by the fairies in their daintiest loom!
Wreath of the bride! best tribute to the tomb!
Without your crowning charm, what were our globe?
Heaven without stars, life without Love's sweet power,
Were not more sad than earth without a flower!

ELIZABETH DABBY.

THE SHIP "EXTRAVAGANCE."

Oh, Extravagance sailth in climes bright and warm,
She is built for the sunlight and not for the storm;
Her anchor is gold, and her mainmast is pride—
Every sheet in the wind doth she dashing ride!
But Content is a vessel not built for display,
Though she's ready and steady—come storm when it may.
So give us Content as life's channel we steer,
If our Pilot be Caution, we've little to fear!
Oh, Extravagance sailth 'mid glitter and show,
As if fortune's rich tide never ebb'd in its flow;
But see her at night when her gold-light is spent,
When her anchor is lost, and her silken sails rent;
When the wave of destruction her shatter'd side drinks,
And the billows—ha! ha!—laugh and shout as she sinks.
No: give us Content, as life's channel we steer,
While our Pilot is Caution, there's little to fear.

CHARLES SWAIN.

VARIETIES.

American Theatricals.—A piece announced as "a new comedy written by Mrs. Frances Anne Kemble" was produced at the Astor Theatre, by Mr. Bass, the manager, at the beginning of May. It turned out to be full of gross indecencies: a translation of Dumas' *Mademoiselle de Belle Isle*, with the introduction of an Abbé de Rosanne, said to be by the translator, Mrs. Butler. We trust that this also will turn out to be a part of the first imposture.

Heat and Light.—Melloni has just published, in French, at Naples, the first part of a work entitled "*La Thermocrèse; ou, la Coloration Colorifique*," the object of which is to show that the luminous and calorific rays possess the same heterogeneous constitution, proceed from one agent only, and form a single series of radiations, part of which affect the organs of vision, whilst the other is revealed to our senses only by phenomena which accompany the heating of bodies. In short, that rays of heat are distinct in kind and properties like the rays of different colours, which, differing in refrangibility, compose white light.

A Hunter's Museum at Hyde Park Corner.—This is an exhibition of trophies won in the chase, not the hare and hounds' child-play, but in tracking the grim lion or the ferocious rhinoceros, and even the gigantic elephant, in their native wilds of Southern Africa. Mr. Roulaeyn Gordon Cumming, a Highland gentleman, is the hero, whose daring exploits are testified by a vast number of skins of lions, leopards, giraffes, bears, deer, elephants' tusks, and rhinoceros' horns, &c., &c. The show is rendered very interesting by the presence of the wild Bushman tracker, who was in at the death of most of the beasts, the travelling ox-wagon, and all the hunters' apparatus are also in the room, making it complete. Mr. C. is engaged in finishing an account of his five years' hunting residence in Southern Africa, illustrated by his own drawings, which cannot fail to be a captivating book.

Fitzwilliam Museum.—Another example of the true policy and benefit arising from the free admission of the People to public places, will be found in the following from the *Cambridge Chronicle*:—"The number of persons who have visited the Museum during the past year amounts to 40,848. The syndicate have the gratification of recording that no injury whatever has been committed by any of these numerous visitors either to the building or collection, and that there has been no instance of misconduct or annoyance of any kind."

North of England Artists.—An American correspondent, of great taste and judgment in the fine arts, among other matters of interest to us, observes:—"I have met with one artist, named Miller, a native of Darlington, who has as much generous enthusiasm for art as ever I met with in man. He very much reminds me, in speech and person, of poor dear Robson. Can you account why Newcastle and the North of England produce such multitudes of eminent artists? Is it because of Berwick's brilliant success? Newcastle and its neighbourhood could produce ten, aye, twenty, I believe, first-rate artists for one from any other city or town in England." From the northern parts we have Stanfield, Lough in sculpture, and J. Durham, a rising artist in the same line, the modeller of the true effigies of Jenny Lind.

Mrs. Waghorn, the widow of Lieutenant Waghorn, has had a pension of 25*l.* a-year granted to her under the sign manual.

Prince Albert attended the last soiree of the President of the Royal Society.

Mr. Hind, our most diligent astronomer, has received a gold medal from the King of Denmark for his discovery of the comet in February, 1847; and a prize from the Academy of Sciences of Paris for his discovery of Iris and Flora, in the same year.

Arctic Expedition.—Sir John Ross has been towed out from Strauraer to proceed on his Arctic exploit.

The Tower of Babel.—Some amusement has been created in Paris during the week, by several of the daily newspapers having committed the absurdity of gravely announcing that some remains of the *Tower of Babel* were about to be exhibited at the Louvre.

The Comet discovered by Dr Petersen at Allona, on the 1st of May, is still visible, and will continue so for two months, when it will be finally lost on the confines of Virgo and Hydra. Mr. Hind calculates the elements of its orbit approximately as follows:—

Least distance from the sun] 1-103
Longitude of the perihelion 275 deg. 32 sec.
Longitude of ascending node 93 deg. 44 sec.
Inclination to the ecliptic 70 deg. 1 sec.
Perihelion passage, August 1, at 5 p.m., Greenwich time; heliocentric motion, direct.

Balloon direction.—It is asserted that the balloon in which a Mr. Bell ascended last Friday evening, is so constructed as at last to accomplish the grand desideratum of being steerable in any direction the aeronaut may desire. A poor young fellow was killed by an accident from the grapnel where it descended in Essex.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ada Greville; or, Woman's Constancy, 3 vols, post 8vo, 1*l* 1*s* 6d
Alison's Europe, Vol XIV., 8vo, cloth, 15s
Alison's Essays, Vol II., 8vo, cloth, 15s
Amyott's Home; or, Life in Childhood, 12mo, cloth, 3s
Anderson's (W. J.) Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment of Eccentric Nervous Affections, post 8vo, cloth, 5s
Anne Dymott; a Tale of Every Day Life, 3 vols, post 8vo, 1*l* 1*s* 6d
Bealey's (J.) Discourses, 8vo, cloth, 12s
Biblical Primer, Vol. I., 12mo, cloth, 2s 6d
Bohn's Classical Library, Smart's Horace, 12mo, cloth, 3s 6d
Bohn's Illustrated Library, Vol VIII., cloth, 5s
Bonar's Truth and Error, third edition, 18mo, cloth, 2s

Burton's Compendium of Law of Real Property, seventh edition, boards, 24s
Byrant's (W. C.) Letters of a Traveller, post 8vo, cloth, 10s 6d
Chambers's Instructive Library, Vol II., sewed, 2s, cloth, 2s 6d
Churton's Library, Vol I., James Charlemagne, 12mo, sewed, 1s 6d
Cressy's (E. S.) Memoirs of Eminent Etians, royal 8vo, cloth, 21s
Cross' (Rev. W.) Fancies and Feelings, 12mo, cloth, 5s
Dempsey on Brick Bridges, 1*l* 1*s* 6d
De Vere's (Aubrey) Sketches of Greece and Turkey, 2 vols, post 8vo, cloth, 21s
Eldorado; or, Voyage to California, 12mo, 2s
Ellie Forester; a Novel, 3 vols, post 8vo, 1*l* 1*s* 6d
Felix on the Bat, second edition, 4to, cloth, 12s
Fortune's Epitome of Funds, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 6s
Galt's Tales, "Annals of Parish," "Entail," "Provost," "Andrew Wylie," each sewed, 3s 6d, cloth, 4s
Hamilton's Universal Tune Book, 4to, cloth, 7s
Hodge on Expansive Steam Engine, 4to, half-bound, 16s
Hubert's (Rev. H. S. M.) Emblematical Sermons, 12mo, cloth, 5s
Iron's (W. J.) Judgment on Baptismal Regeneration, 8vo, cloth, 5s
Irving's Columbus, Vol I., 12mo, 1s 6d
James' (Robert) Psalter, new edition, 32mo, cloth, 2s
Key to Hodgson's Sacred Lyrics, 8vo, cloth, 7s 6d
Kingston's (W. H. G.) How to Emigrate, 18mo, cloth, 3s
Kirby's (Mary) Flora of Leicestershire, 12mo, cloth, 6d
Lawson's (J. P.) Legends, &c., of Principal Persons and Events mentioned in the Old Testament, 12mo, 3s 6d
Lawson's (W. L.) History of Banking, 8vo, cloth, 16s
Little Alice and her Sisters, new edition, 18mo, 2s 6d
Law's (S.) Charities of London, 12mo, cloth, 10s 6d
Maitland's (Rev. Dr.) Essays on Nature, &c., of Man, second Edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s 6d
Marsden's (J. B.) History of Early Puritans, 8vo, cloth, 10s 6d
Orel's (J. A.) Principle of Surgery, 12mo, cloth, 10s 6d
Outlines of Sacred History, twelfth edition, 18mo, cloth, 2s 6d
Pepe's Narrative of Events in Italy, 2 vols, post 8vo, 21s
Potter's Grecian Antiquities, 12mo, 4s 6d
Prescott's Works, Vol IX. Peru, Vol III., cloth, 5s
Radcliffe's (C. B.) Unity of Nature, 8vo, cloth, 6s
Reid's Young Surveyor's Preceptor, 4to, cloth, 18s
Roberts' (Mary) Voices from Woodlands, 16mo, cloth, 10s 6d
Rollin's (Lodov.) Decline of England, Vol I., sewed, 2s 6d
St. John's (H.) Life of Columbus, 12mo, cloth, 3s 6d
Sedgwick's Stories for Young Persons, 1s 6d
Sickness, its Trials and Blessings, 12mo, cloth, 6s
Strachan's (J.) Tables of Drawings, second edition, oblong, 2s 6d
Stories of Holy Men and Women, 18mo, cloth, 2s
Taylor's (B.) Eldorado; or, Adventures in the Path of Empire, 2 vols, post 8vo, 18s
Taylor's Life of Christ, 8vo, cloth, 10s 6d
Taylor's Holy Living and Dying, 8vo, cloth, 10s 6d
Ten Lectures on Errors of Church of Rome, 8vo, sewed, 2s 6d
Tennyson's (A.) In Memoriam, 12mo, cloth, 6s
Weidmann's (Rev. C. F.) Four Papers on Miscellaneous Subjects, 12mo, cloth, 3s
White's (A.) Popular History of Mammalia, 16mo, cloth, 10s 6d
Young Scholar's Atlas of Modern Geography, thirteen coloured maps, 2s 6d

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.
[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1850		1850	
h. m. s.		h. m. s.	
June 1	11 57 23.4	June 5	11 55 39
2	57 34.4	6	55 14.5
3	57 43.9	7	55 38.4
4	57 53.7		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. Button, like Mr. P. Cunningham, has entered the list against Mr. R. Reinagle's letter on the misdoings of the Royal Academicians, in the *Literary Gazette* the week before last, and defends the cause of Sir F. Chantrey. "Intimate," says an old friend, "as I was, for many years, with Sir Francis Chantrey, and with Mr. E. Rhodes, of Sheffield, who wrote and published a very interesting volume, called 'Peak Scenery,' illustrated by engravings by George Cooke and J. Le Reux, from sketches and drawings by Sir Francis, &c., I can assert that all these parties were truly honourable and respectable artists, and that their works and integrity of character were unexceptionable and unimpeachable. Not having the volume before me I cannot assert that all its engravings were directly executed from Sir Francis's own sketches, but having now before me a proof from one of the plates, and also Chantrey's sketch made from the original, I cannot hesitate in asserting the one to be a faithful copy from the other, without any aid from Mr. Reinagle's pencil. Other engravings, I believe, were also produced in the same way, though some of the landscapes may have been drawn by Mr. R. from sketches by the eminent sculptor." Giving this explanation credit to its full extent, it does not appear to us to disprove all our correspondent's statement. Both accounts might be true.—*Ed. L. G.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING for the ELECTION OF FELLOWS will be held on THURSDAY, 6th JUNE, at Three o'clock. After the Election the Fellows and their Friends will dine at the Freemason's Tavern.
The Earl of Ross, President, in the Chair.
C. R. WELD, Assistant Secretary.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS,

TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

THE EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is now OPEN. Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven) One Shilling—Catalogue One Shilling.
JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St James's Palace, daily from 9 till dusk. Admission, 1s.
JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the monuments of antiquity on its banks, to which is added the interior of the great rock-cut Temple of Abou Simbel. Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Fahey. Also a Collection of Egyptian and Nubian Curiosities.
Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, daily, at 3 and 8 o'clock. Stalls, 3s. Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Children and Schools Half-price.

TALBOY TYPE PORTRAITS ON PAPER.

MESSRS. HENNEMAN AND MALONE, 122, Regent-street, (Photographers to the Queen), take Portraits, even in dull weather, that may be coloured to resemble Miniatures. Copies of Portraits in Daguerotypes, Oil or Water Colours; Pictures; Statuary; Prints; Rare Books; &c.
Apparatus, Chemicals, and Iodized Paper for Amateurs, with instructions, gratis, sent to any part of the world. Photographs from different parts of the United Kingdom and the Continent for sale, on view (gratuitously) at 122, Regent-street.

DIORAMA.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street, Waterloo Place.—THREE EXHIBITIONS EACH DAY.—A GRAND MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail, and appropriate Music, is now OPEN DAILY, Mornings at 12; Afternoons at 3; and in the Evening at 8 o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.—Doors open half-an-hour previous to the above hours.—Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained in the rooms.

BY B. R. GREEN AND JAMES FAHEY.

THE FOLDING DRAWING MODELS, constructed on an entirely new principle, enable the pupil to paint at once from nature. They lie quite flat when not in use, consist of Cottages, Churches, Bridges, Towers, &c., in outline and colour. Their compactness admirably adapts them for private families and schools. Their portability renders them invaluable to the drawing master. Single Models from 7s. 6d. each, or in sets complete, with box and stand, Elementary 2 guineas, advanced 3 guineas. Sold by the principal Artists' Colourmen and Booksellers.

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DRAWINGS BY THE BEST MASTERS.

MESSRS. DICKINSON AND CO. beg to inform those who are studying the Fine Arts that they have on Hire Drawings by all the First Masters of the day, viz., Harding, Froust, Fielden, Topham, Jenkins, Absalom, Oakley, Fripp, &c. Messrs. D. have added to their Circulating Portfolio a choice assortment of Sketches and Drawings by P. De Wint, selected from the late sale of his works. Can be sent to any part of the United Kingdom.
DICKINSON and Co., 114, New Bond Street.

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MESSRS. DICKINSON'S STUDIOS are now OPEN, with Classes conducted by able artists, for the study of the Figure and Landscape. The stock of Drawings for Hire (by the First Masters), belonging to the Circulating Portfolio, has been greatly increased, and a choice assortment of Sketches and Drawings by P. De Wint, selected from the late sale of his works, has also been added.

TO ARTISTS AND AMATEURS.

VADE MECUM; or, Portable Compendium of every requisite for sketching from Nature, comprising colour box, stool, easel, drawing board paper, &c., the whole being arranged in a case scarcely larger than a lady's reticule, and lighter than an ordinary sketch book. Invented and sold by Messrs. DICKINSON, at their GALLERIES of ART, 114, New Bond Street. Messrs. D. have added to their Circulating Portfolio a choice assortment of Sketches and Drawings by P. De Wint, selected from the late sale of his works.

BY SPECIAL INVITATION.

A COURSE OF LECTURES ON POLITICAL ECONOMY will be delivered by A. L. JULES LE CHEVALIER, Avocat, Licencie en droit, in the small room at Exeter Hall. The Course will consist of Eight Lectures, and an introductory one to be delivered in the French Language, and will commence on WEDNESDAY next, the 5th of JUNE, and be continued every Wednesday, till July 31st. Doors open at half-past four p.m. Lecture commence at 5. Tickets of admission to the introductory lecture are free. Subscription Tickets for the Course, 1l. 1s. Both free admissions and Subscription Tickets may be obtained of W. Pickering, 177, Piccadilly. Bell, 186, Fleet-street. Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange. J. Chapman, 142, Strand, of whom may be obtained a syllabus of the Lectures, including the correspondence of M. le Chevalier, with the committee at whose invitation the Lectures are given.

JOHN MORTLOCK'S CHINA and EARTH-ENWARE BUSINESS is CARRIED ON in OXFORD STREET only.—The premises are the most extensive in London, and contain an ample assortment of every description of goods of the first manufacturers. A great variety of Dinner Services at four guineas each, cash.—250, Oxford Street, near Hyde Park.

ED. J. DENT, by distinct appointments, Watch and Clock Maker to the Queen, H. R. H. Prince Albert, and H. L. M. the Emperor of Russia, having greatly increased his stock of WATCHES and CLOCKS, to meet the purchases made at this season of the year, most respectfully requests from the public an inspection of his various assortments. Ladies' gold watches, with gold dials, and jewelled in four holes, 8 gu. each; gentlemen's ditto, enamel dials, 10 gu.; youth's silver watches, 4 gu.; substantial and accurately-going silver lever watches, jewelled in four holes, 6 gu.—E. J. DENT, 82, Strand; 33, Cockspur Street; and 34, Royal Exchange (Clock Tower Area).

HENDRIE'S PATENT PETROLINE SOAP

Has realized in practice all the promised beneficial effects on excoriations and eruptive affections of the cuticle. "THE COSMETIC PETROLINE SOAP," for the habitual use of the toilet, is found to have an agreeable demulcent influence on the hands, and on the most delicate skin; or in the nursery, for infants. The "PETROLINE SLAVING SOAP" is peculiarly bland and balsamic, allaying the irritation felt in the employment of the ordinary alkaline composition.

A more detergent antiseptic, with additional petroleum, named "DISPENSARY SOAP," is prepared for inveterate cuticular affections of long standing; and, from experience in several public schools, where it has been employed in washing children's heads, it has proved an efficient specific for, and a complete protection against, the troublesome complaint known as ringworm.

The Dispensary Soap, being at a moderate price, is available for all classes, and is used with great success in purifying linen after infectious diseases; indeed, the use of it may, in many cases of typhus and other contagions, be considered a beneficial antidote.

H. HENDRIE,

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12 and 13, Tichborne Street, Regent's Quadrant.

CITY OF LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE

SOCIETY, for Accumulative and General Assurance, 2, Royal Exchange Buildings, and 5, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, London.

ACTUARY.

G. J. Farrance, Esq.

MANAGER OF THE WEST END BRANCH.

James Bryden, Esq., 5, Waterloo Place.

All further information may be obtained of

EDWARD FREDERICK LEES,

Secretary.

UNION ASSURANCE OFFICE

(FIRE, LIFE ANNUITIES), Cornhill and Baker-street.

London; College-green, Dublin; and Esplanade, Hamburg.

Instituted A.D. 1714.

WILLIAM NOTTIDGE, Esq., CHAIRMAN.

NICHOLAS CHARRINGTON, Esq., DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

The Life Bonus of the year 1848 has been declared, and with the exception of a reserve of 20,000l. (to accumulate to wards the next Bonus in 1855) is payable upon and with the sum insured.

The following will show the annual amount of Bonus on Policies for 1,000l. effected in Great Britain, according to the ages of the lives when assured:—

Age when Assured.	Amount of Premium effected.	Amount of Bonus received in the last Seven Years.	Bonus for the same time.
20	152 10 10	168 5 10	165
25	166 10 2	199 8 4	165
30	186 10 2	237 14 2	165
35	206 10 2	274 14 2	165
40	227 14 2	311 14 2	165

THOMAS LEWIS, Secretary.

FIRE INSURANCE in all its branches, including the rent of houses, and profits returned on septennial insurances.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE

COMPANY, Established by Act of Parliament in 1834—8, Waterloo place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

LONDON BOARD.

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SECOND SEPTENNIAL DIVISION OF PROFITS

AMONG THE ASSURED.

The bonus added to policies from March, 1834, to the 31st December, 1847, is as follows:

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1847.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
5,000	12 yrs. 10 mo.	683 6 8	787 10 0	6470 16 8
5,000	12 years	500 0 0	787 10 0	6267 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	6067 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5867 10 0
5,000	6 years	675 0 0	5675 0 0
5,000	4 years	450 0 0	5450 0 0
5,000	2 years	225 0 0	5225 0 0

The premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years when the insurance is for life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

MENTOR LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

2, Old Broad-street.

Subscribed Capital, 250,000l.

President: His Grace the Duke of Rutland, K.G.

Vice-President: The Right Hon. the Earl Fitzwilliam, F.R.S., F.S.A.

Directors: JOHN DEAN PAUL, Esq., Chairman.

GEORGE BERKELEY HARRISON, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

Burton Archer Burton, Esq. Sir George Graham Otway, Bart.

Robert Main, Esq. George Robert Paul, Esq.

Charles Benjamin Caldwell, Esq. Henry Corbett Taylor, Esq.

Samuel Whitfield Daukes, Esq. Major-General Harry Thompson.

The Rev. Richard Lee, M.A. Captain Wetherall, R.N.

Advantages offered by this Company, which is composed of Mutual and Proprietary Branches:—

The security of a sub-scribed capital of 250,000l.

In the mutual branch the whole of the profits are divided amongst the holders of policies on which seven annual premiums have been paid.

In the proprietary branch the lowest possible rates of premium consistent with the security of the assured. Premiums are made payable in a variety of ways to meet the convenience of assureds.

Credit given for half the premiums for the first seven years, and increasing premiums commencing at exceedingly low rates.

Moderate increased premiums for increased risks.

Naval and military men assured at the ordinary rate when on home service, with a moderate additional charge for licence to proceed to any part of the world.

The usual commission allowed to medical men, solicitors, and agents.

In all cases where a medical report is given, the fee is paid by the Company.

All policies indisputable, except in cases of fraud.

By order of the Board of Directors,

LOUIS MORE, Manager.

ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFITS.

GREAT BRITAIN MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE

SOCIETY,

14, WATERLOO PLACE, & 52, KING WILLIAM STREET, CITY.

THE CHISHOLM, Chairman.

RICHARD HARTLEY KENNEDY, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

THIS Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The Funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually, and applied in reduction of the future Premiums.

At the Annual General Meetings, held on the 9th instant, an elaborate and highly satisfactory Report of the state of the Society's affairs was submitted to the Members, whereupon it was resolved, unanimously, that an allowance of Thirty per Cent. should be made on the Premiums payable on all Policies on the participating scale, on which five or more yearly payments had been previously made.

Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premium for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction:—

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium hitherto paid.	Reduction of 30 per cent.	Annual Premium now payable.
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 5 3	14 12 3
30	1000	25 13 4	7 14 0	17 9 4
40	1000	33 24 4	10 3 6	23 14 10
50	1000	48 10 8	14 13 0	34 3 8

14, Waterloo-place, A. R. IRVINE, Managing Director.
10th May, 1850.

EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY, 1851.

The following is the LIST of LOCAL COMMITTEES announced up to this day (May 27) to the Royal Commission, with the number of returns of Subscriptions made by them, and the total amount at present reported by each town.—

*. * Where no sum is put against the Town, it implies that the Local Committee of that town has not yet made its first return.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Aberdeen, 1 return	119	16	0	Farnham,				Perth,			
Aberystwith,				Fleetwood,				Plymouth, 1 return . . .	90	12	0
Alton,				Forfar,				Pocklington,			
Aiton,				Frome,				Poole, 1 return	20	10	0
Appleby,				Galashiels,				Portsmouth, 1 return . .	300	0	0
Arbroath,				Glasgow, 2 returns	1,150	0	0	Preston, 2 returns	264	10	6
Ashburton, 1 return . . .	2	7	6	Glossop,				Putney,			
Ashton-under-Lyne,				Gloucester, 2 returns . . .	75	5	0	Ramsgate, 2 returns	36	7	6
Barnard Castle	11	15	0	Gosport,				Reading,			
Barnsley,				Grantham,				Redruth,			
Barnstaple,				Gravesend,				Reigate,			
Baslingstoke,				Great Grimsby,				Richmond (Surrey),			
Bath, 2 returns	146	14	6	Greenock,				Richmond (Y.) 1 return . .	68	10	0
Batley, 1 return	133	10	6	Guernsey, 1 return	116	10	0	Ripon, 1 return	25	0	0
Bedford, 1 return	115	13	2	Guildford, 2 returns . . .	34	2	0	Rochester,			
Belfast, 4 returns	56	12	6	Haddington,				Rotherham, 2 returns	60	0	0
Berwick, North				Halifax, 4 returns	679	3	0	Rugby,			
Beverley, 1 return	91	19	6	Halstead,				Runcorn,			
Bideford,				Hammersmith, 1 return . .	20	7	6	Rye,			
Bilston,				Hampstead,				Salisbury, 1 return	62	3	0
Bingley, 2 returns	120	3	0	Hartlepool, 1 return	39	4	0	Scarborough,			
Birmingham, 4 returns . .	641	3	0	Haastings, 2 returns	100	4	0	Selby,			
Blackburn, 4 returns . . .	775	0	0	Hawick,				Selkirk,			
Bodmin,				Hayle,				Settle,			
Bolton, 3 returns	557	13	0	Helston,				Sheerness, 2 returns	24	10	0
Boston, 1 return	40	0	0	Hereford, 3 returns	85	7	0	Sheffield, 1 return	844	19	0
Bradford, (Yorks.) 2 re-				Hertford, 1 return	23	2	6	Shrewsbury, 2 returns	297	3	0
turns	1,495	0	0	Honiton,				Skipton,			
Braintree,				Huddersfield, 3 returns . .	866	15	6	Society of Arts	995	6	0
Brampton, 1 return	10	10	0	Hull, 2 returns	219	14	0	Southampton, 1 return . .	350	0	0
Brentford,				Huntingdon, 1 return	50	2	6	Southport,			
Brentwood,				Ilfracombe,				South Molton,			
Bridgenorth, 2 returns . .	21	1	0	Ipswich, 3 returns	330	11	6	South Shields,			
Bridgewater, 1 return . . .	37	6	0	Ile of Wight, 1 return . . .	52	11	0	Spalding,			
Bridlington,				Jersey, 2 returns	256	9	6	Stafford,			
Bridport, 3 returns	69	19	6	Keighley, 1 return	117	12	0	Stafford, 1 return	30	0	0
Bristol, 3 returns	706	1	6	Kensington, 1 return	290	15	0	St. Andrews,			
Bromsgrove,				Kewick, 1 return	20	3	0	St. Austell, 1 return	14	2	6
Buckingham,				Kilminster, 2 returns	169	4	6	St. Colman,			
Burnley,				Kilmarnock,				St. Helier,			
Barton-on-Trent,				Kirkcaldy,				Stirling, 3 returns	56	7	0
Bury St. Edmunds, 1 re-				Knarsborough,				Stockport, 1 return	292	0	0
turn	26	19	0	Lancaster, 2 returns	88	7	0	Stockton, 1 return	65	13	6
Bury (Lancashire),				Launceston,				Stone-upon-Trent,			
Cambridge,				Leamington, 1 return	43	2	6	Stokehouse, 1 return	18	11	0
Cambridge University, 3				Leeds, 3 returns	2,010	16	10	Stourbridge, 1 return	77	6	0
returns	140	0	0	Leicester, 1 return	199	6	6	Stroud, 1 return	92	16	0
Canterbury, 1 return . . .	23	19	0	Lewes, 2 returns	103	7	6	Sunderland, 1 return	192	12	0
Cardiff, 1 return	95	2	0	Lichfield, 1 return	26	11	0	Swansea, 2 returns	150	8	0
Carlisle, 3 returns	257	11	6	Limerick,				Taunton, 2 returns	49	7	6
Chatham, 1 return	43	16	8	Lincoln,				Taunton, 1 return	88	0	0
Cheltenham, 1 return . . .	164	14	6	Liskeard,				Tavistock,			
Chelmsford, 1 return . . .	78	18	0	Liverpool, 1 return	827	13	0	Tewkesbury, 1 return	20	13	0
Chelsea, 1 return	141	11	0	Llanelli, 2 returns	141	4	2	Tiverton,			
Chester, 1 return	50	0	0	London, 4 returns	24,696	14	0	Torrington,			
Chichester, 1 return	90	0	0	London, 1 return	669	2	0	Totnes,			
Chislewick, 1 return	46	7	0	London (South) 1 return . .	215	15	6	Tower Hamlets			
Chippenham, 1 return . . .	21	7	0	Louth,				Truro, 1 return	92	13	0
Chorley,				Macclesfield, 1				Uttoket, 1 return	30	0	0
Cockermouth,				Maidstone,				Wakefield, 1 return	240	10	0
Coggeshall,				Manchester, 3 returns	3,500	15	0	Walsall, 1 return	40	11	6
Colchester,				Marlborough,				Warrington, 4 returns	195	15	6
Colne,				Marylebone, 1 return	688	7	0	Warswick,			
Congleton, 1 return	29	18	0	Melrose,				Waterford,			
Cork,				Merthyr Tydvil, 1 return . .	164	9	6	Wellington (Salop),			
Coventry,				Middlesbro', 1 return	40	16	0	Wellington (Som.),			
Cupar,				Montreal (Canada),				Westminster, 3 returns	5,216	8	3
Darlington, 1 return . . .	48	2	6	Montrose, 1 return	56	1	0	Ditto, Ladies, 2 returns . . .	631	10	6
Deal, 1 return	2	15	0	Newark,				Wexford, 2 returns	3	17	6
Derby, 2 returns	239	16	3	Newcastle-under-Lyne,				Whitby,			
Devizes, 1 return	14	0	0	1 return	33	4	6	Whitehaven, 3 returns	115	5	0
Devonport, 1 return	63	0	0	Newcastle-on-Tyne, 4 re-				Wigan, 3 returns	213	6	7
Doncaster, 1 return	56	0	0	turns	518	16	0	Winchester, 1 return	90	0	0
Dorchester,				Newham, 1 return	63	5	0	Windsor, 2 returns	385	14	0
Dover, 4 returns	103	3	0	Newport, (Isle of Wight),				Wolverhampton, 2 returns . .	270	17	0
Driffield, Great, 1 return .	35	0	0	1 return	76	13	0	Wolverton,			
Dublin,				Newport, (Mon.) 2 returns . .	75	18	6	Woolwich, 1 return	57	7	0
Dudley, 1 return	253	19	0	North Allerton, 1 return . .	22	0	0	Worcester, 2 returns	171	5	6
Dunbar,				Northampton, 2 returns . . .	36	10	0	Worlington,			
Dundee, 1 return	21	0	0	Norwich, 1 return	330	13	6	Worthing, 1 return	33	0	6
Dunfermline, 2 returns . .	154	14	0	Nottingham, 1 return	830	12	6	Yarmouth, Great,			
Durham, 1 return	139	12	10	Oldham,				Yeovil, 1 return	70	15	0
Edinburgh, 1 return	416	14	6	Okehampton,				York, 1 return	77	6	0
Elgin,				Oldham,							
Exeter,				Oxford, 2 returns	200	0	0				
Falmouth, 1 return	20	18	0	Paisley,							
				Penance,							

£61,704 5 3½

ROYAL ASYLUM of St. ANN'S SOCIETY.
The ANNUAL MEETING of those formerly boys in this Asylum will take place at the Royal Asylum, Brixton-hill, on Friday, the 7th of June next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of SALISBURY in the chair.
All are invited to attend, but the testimonials of those entitled to rewards must be forwarded to the Secretary one week at least previously to that day.

E. F. LEEKS, Secretary.
2, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house, May, 1850.

ROYAL ASYLUM of St. ANN'S SOCIETY,
affording Home, Clothing, Maintenance, and Education to Children of those once in prosperity, Orphans or not, and of any nation. By Voluntary Contributions. Instituted 1709; incorporated 1845.

PATRONS.

The QUEEN.
H.R.H. Prince ALBERT.

H.R.H. the Prince of WALES.
The King of HANOVER.

The King of the BELGIANS.
H.R.H. the Duchess of KENT.

H.R.H. the Duchess of GLOUCESTER.

H.R.H. the Duke of CAMBRIDGE.

H.R.H. the Duchess of CAMBRIDGE.

The ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL, under the patronage of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, will be celebrated at the London Tavern, on Wednesday, the 5th of June, 1850; The Right Hon. the Lord Viscount FIELDING in the chair;

Supported by Donald Nicoll, Esq., Sheriff of London and Middlesex, Mr. Under-Sheriff Millard, and the following

STEWARDS.

His Grace the Duke of RUTLAND, K.G.

The Right Hon. the Earl of DENBIGH.

The Right Hon. the Earl of HARROWBY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of KINTORE.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of EXETER, V.P.
The Right Hon. and Right Rev. the Bishop of SODOR and MAN.

The Right Hon. Lord TEIGNMOUTH.

The Hon. WILLIAM ASHLEY, V.P.

The Hon. CHARLES PELHAM VILLIERS, M.P.

The Hon. and Rev. FREDERIC POWYS.

The Hon. WILLIAM FREDERICK CAMPBELL, M.P.

Lieut.-General Sir W. G. DAVY.

J. BROTHERTON, Esq., M.P.

BENJAMIN BOND CAMPBELL, Esq., M.P., F.R.S., F.S.A.

The Rev. J. VAUGHAN, D.C.L.

J. W. FRESHFIELD, Esq., F.R.S., High Sheriff of Surrey.

FRANCIS GRAHAM MOON, Esq., Alderman.

Richard Corrie Bache, Esq.

David Baillie, Esq., F.R.S.

George Bain, Esq.

J. Ansley L. Barnard, Esq.

Henry Baynes, Esq.

J. Beaumont, Esq.

T. P. Beckwith, Esq.

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Edward Brewster, Esq.

The Rev. Joseph Brown, M.A.

W. G. Brown, Esq.

W. S. Burton, Esq.

A. W. Roberts, Esq.

Anthony Close, Esq.

Francis Crew, Esq.

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Peter Hardy Esq., F.R.S.

John Harrison, Esq.

Samuel Hodgson, Esq.

Lord Huntley, Esq.

W. S. Johnson, Esq.

James B. Kelly, Esq.

John Leary, Esq.

Tickets, one guinea each, may be obtained from the Stewards; the Committee; at the Tavern; or from 2, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house. E. F. LEEKS, Sec. Life subscription, £10 10s; annual ditto, £1 1s.

PERIODICALS FOR JUNE.

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